Midland Pioneers

A Project of the
Midland Genealogical Society

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Ora Flaningam

Editor

1999

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Preface by

Judge Henry Hart

Ora L. Flaningam
Editor

1996

Preface

A few months ago, Ora L. Flaningam asked if I would write a forward for the Midland Genealogical book "**Midland Pioneers**." I presume this was because my father's and mother's families had arrived in Midland in about 1860 and I had recently written numerous articles in the Library's "Readers Review" about my 80 plus years in Midland.

More readers than I ever thought bought and are still buying these articles compiled in my book "**At Least Partly True**." When I meet the readers, their most often remark is "I so enjoyed tour stories. My parents lived here too and I sure wish I had talked more and listened more to them about the days 'way back when'".

The Genealogical Society of Midland to the rescue! There book "**Midland Pioneers**" does what they wish they had done. These individuals have collected for all a history om memories of life an Midland County from the middle and late 1800's and through the 1900's.

History? Some people are nuts about history. Some say history is nutty. Henry Ford said, "History is bunk." Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. said "A page of history is worth a volume of logic." Logic is the studying and analyzing and minute interpreting of past events. History is the simple telling of stories of the various events of bygone days giving the reader both enjoyment and edification.

Aesop's Fables used people, animals, or inanimate things in a brief tale embodying a moral. "**Midland Pioneers**" does the same for us and and provides future generations a moral basis on which to plan and build.

Read both, and enjoy.

Henry Hart

[NOTE: The book is formatted to be cut down to 6 by 9 inches. In reformatting the book for CD-ROM in 2004, it was necessary to change the font, resulting in changes in the pagination unless each page was ended with a hard page and left slightly less full.]

Introduction

This book is a collection of stories by and about the pioneers of the Saginaw Valley region of Michigan and especially of Midland County, Michigan. These stories are taken from the "Pioneer Record" newsletter of the Midland Genealogical Society (Volumes I through XIV, 1980-1994) and most have appeared before in old books and the newspapers of the county.

The stories will be presented essentially as they first appeared and the reader should so note since they will many times be presented in the first person as they happened, or were told to the person who wrote them down. The reader will see many places where the story will note that persons, now long gone, are noted as living when the story was written. There will also be many instances where a location will be given as being where some well-known landmark of long ago once stood, but which few now-a-days would be able to place. The dates and places of their appearance will be noted with each article. This is the best we can do at giving the reader a sense of the time and place.

Since these will be collected from many sources and from many times, there will be some repetition in them. It may also be found that because many were written from memory alone, that there are some discrepancies of time, place, or fact. The editor begs forgiveness and hopes that they will all be found to be interesting and paint a colorful picture of the diversity of life as it occurred here so many years ago.

Note that the index includes all proper names -- people, places and things.

I would like to acknowledge and thank my wife, **DonaLee** for the wonderful INDEX she prepared.

Ora L. Flaningam, Editor
July, 1995

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HISTORY OF PEOPLE IN MIDLAND

(Data collected by Mrs. Grace A. Ball Dow)

Midland Republican Feb. 3, 1911 - The first white man to come to Midland County was sent here by the Government in 1831 to supervise the lands, but he was killed by the Indians. His name was Porter.

John A. Whitman was the first white settler to arrive and stay in Midland County. He came in the fall of 1835 and built his house on Section 1, Ingersoll Township, which now is in Saginaw County. Our present Mayor is his grandson.

Dr. Fitzhugh came here from New York State in 1835 and bought 600 or 700 acres of land for which he paid $2.50 an acre, but he did not settle here. He went back to New York State, and about 1838 sent his son, Charles Fitzhugh. Mr. Fitzhugh owned a part of the old Ball farm, all the land down to the old water works back through where the old Baptist church used to stand, the point across the Tittabawassee River, the Herbert Sias farm and the Dow Property back through East and West Park Drive down through Midland Park. Mr. Fitzhugh gave what is now Fitzhugh Park to Midland County for a cemetery.

In 1836 the Wymans came and settled on the Fitzhugh lands, now the Herbert Sias farm. They lived in a little log house. Mrs. Wyman planted the seeds for some of the fruit trees which are now in Mr. Sias' orchard. When the Wymans came here there was nothing but woods for miles, their nearest white neighbors being twelve miles away. In 1837 Mr. Wyman moved to Saginaw to educate their children. They returned to Midland County in 1851 and settled on the farm now occupied by Ray Farnham. Their son, John Wyman, lived on the Chippewa river for as long as he lived. Their daughter Julia was the first white child born in Midland County.

Charles Cronkright moved to Midland County in 1857 and located on the Chippewa River. They afterwards moved to Saginaw, but now live in Homer Township.

Charles Rodd, a half-breed, came here about this time and established a store and trading post with the Indians. The store was

the Ball farm, across from the Dow Chemical office. Mr. Rodd's daughter married one of the Wyman Brothers.

In 1843 Joseph Townsend settled near the forks, now Midland city. When the first school was built, the Townsend children were about the first to attend school. Most of the other scholars were Indians. Mr. Townsend died in 1849, the first white man to die in Midland County. Iantha, wife of Albert Sidelinker, now living, is the granddaughter of Joseph Townsend.

The first schoolhouse in the county was built in 1850 and Henry C. Ashman, a half-breed was the first teacher. It was built of logs in true pioneer style and stood on the Herbert Sias farm.

Solon Rumrill came in the early 40's and cleared a little piece of land and built a small house on the site of the Community Center. Mr. Rumrill was the first Register of Deeds and the first Postmaster of Midland. He was the first white male child born in the Saginaw Valley. Mrs. Alfred Price is his daughter.

William Vance, now the oldest living permanent settler, came to Midland in 1849, When Mr. Vance came, there were only twenty-seven people, men women and children. He and John McLane, who came in 1851, cleared the land for Midland City in 1852.

In 1859 Charles Blodgett came. He located on the banks of the Tittabawassee River where Bailey bridge spans the river. Mrs. Ed Lyon is the daughter of Mr. Blodgett. He cleared the forest until he had forty acres of land. When they came here the only settler within the present City limits was a half-breed, Charles Rodd, mentioned above. Mrs. Lyon remembers Midland as The Forks. Her father taught the Currier school at the Bluffs, one of the first schools. Mr. Blodgett lumbered extensively.

The first Indian school was the Indian Mission on the Indian Reserve across from the chemical plant, known as the Ball farm.

In 1852 John Larkin and family moved to the Bluffs, which is now Midland City. They stayed six weeks and then moved here. Mr. Larkin cleared a piece of land and built a log house where the Dow Chemical Works now stands. This was the first structure built here. The family lived in this house for three years, in true pioneer style, entertaining the lumbermen and sharing all they had with all. Then he bought sixty acres from the American Fur Company and later built the residence we remember, which stood where the Baker and O'Brien Blocks now stand. In 1858, he built a little steamboat, called the City of Midland, to run

between here and Saginaw, but this boat became so warped the river was not deep enough for it. He then bought the Belle Seymour, the first boat to run between Midland and Saginaw.

Mr. Larkin was the first lumberman and much of his first lumbering was done here in Midland City. He first went into the mill business with Captain Sumner, the mill being near the Shipp estate, afterward building a mill on the river bank, the place of our dumping grounds. In 1855, he built the first building worthy of the name in Midland City. The houses of Turner, Ball, and the old Reinhart home, and Harvey Lyon, were the first houses and are still standing. They were all built the 'upright and wing' style.

In 1877 Mr. Larkin went into the retail lumber business with William Patrick, and in 1878 they erected extensive salt works. Mr. and Mrs. Larkin were pioneers, pure and simple, and all who knew Mrs. Larkin will always remember her brave, sweet womanhood.

Charles Atwell also came to Midland in 1852, living first with the Wyman family. He worked at lumbering for years and his son, Henry is now one of our successful farmers.

Captain George was another pioneer of the early 50's and lived on what is now the Golf links.

Thomas McCartney came with his family and settled four miles from the Forks, now Midland City, in the dense woods. Mr. McCartney was in the lumbering business. They left a nice farm and school advantages for their children. Mrs. J.V. Lounsbery, daughter of Mr. McCartney, said it was the happiest time of their lives with the beautiful woods all about them. There were three families on this side of the river when Mr. McCartney came here. Those of Harvey Lyon, Captain George and Thomas Townsend. Miss Annis Lounsbery is a daughter of Mrs. J.V. Lounsbery.

T.J. Carpenter bought four hundred acres of land in Midland County is 1855 and in 1859 bought the one hundred acres now included in the site of Midland. He and another, Thompson, ran a sawmill on the bank of the river, opposite the Dow Chemical Company, in 1859. He afterwards built a home where the postoffice now stands.

The first session of the Board of Supervisors was a special one, held at the Clerk's office and consisted of two members ... Henry C. Ashman, half-breed, Chairman and Dr. Ed. P. Jennings, County Clerk. At this meeting John A. Whitman was appointed Treasurer at a salary of

$450 a year. At a meeting of the Board of Supervisors in 1856, $6000 was appropriated to build a Court House, and the contract was given to Timothy Jerome. In 1857, at a meeting of the Legislature, Henry C. Ashman, who had become a lawyer of considerable ability, gained the power of locating the Court House for the supervisors and prosecuting attorney of Midland County. As Mr. Ashman was the only supervisor and also the prosecuting attorney, this gave him full power to locate the grounds, and we have him to thank for the beautiful location of our Court House.

Joseph Barton's parents moved to Midland County in 1854, and when he was twenty-two years of age, he went into the lumbering business. His wife is the daughter of John Whitman, the second white child to be born in the County, and has lived here all her life.

In 1856, Samuel Gaskill came to Midland County, settling in Ingersoll Township, where he spent the rest of his life.

Asa Bacon, Sr., was another pioneer to come in 1856. He lived in the Methodist Church block. Mr. Bacon held the offices of supervisor, justice of the peace, and register of deeds. The latter for sixteen years.

At this time, Lorenze Taylor occupied a log house where the Barstow residence now is.

In 1856, William Mixer came and settled on a farm, a mile and one half from Midland City, now the Shipps estate. In 1856, he came to Midland and built the house still standing on Larkin Street.

Sam Sias came to Midland County in 1856, engaging in the lumbering business. He came here for several winters and finally moved his family here from Maine. He bought the Hotel of John Larkin, which he kept for two years, then he sold out and bought fifty acres of land near the City of Midland, where he spent his summers farming and the winters lumbering. He also owned a fine large farm on the Chippewa River. Mr. Sias was one of our most successful lumbermen. He was in that business as long as he lived. He was the father of Mrs. Towsley, Mrs. Hardy, and Mrs. Hart.

In 1856, the school at the Bluffs was built. Mr. Blodgett, father of Mrs. Ed. Lyon, was the first director, and Mr. Major and Mr. Ellsworth, the other officers. Lucy Merch was teacher with a salary of $1 a week and the privilege of boarding around. The next school organized was at Lee's corners, now Laporte, in 1857, and the same year the one in Midland on the old Unitarian grounds. Miss Flanders was the first teacher of our school.

Jeremiah Holmes settled in Jerome Township in 1859. He kept a sort of Hotel for Lumbermen as long as he lived. He was the grandfather of Mrs. Ed. Lane.

John Sias, another great lumberman, came from Maine to Michigan in 1858 and at once went into the lumber business. In company with his brother, Sam Sias, he bought extensive tracts of pine lands. In the spring of 1860 he brought his family and they went to live in a house on what is now the Poor Farm. (ED NOTE: In 1994, part of the MCV Power Plant property.) They lived there until Fall, then came to Midland City, living in a house where the Baker residence now is. Mr. Sias owned a large stock farm. Mrs. Ed. Lee was his daughter. Sam and John Sias were interesting characters. One time they went to the Bancroft for a meal. Sam Sias had on a coat while John was in his shirt sleeves. When they came to the dining room door, the girl at the door told them no one could go in without a coat on. Sam went in with the coat, and when he got into the room he took off the coat and threw it out the door to his brother, John, saying "Come on in, John."

About the year 1860, William Cressey, a little Englishman, came and started a grocery store on the corner where the Farr Grocery now is. This store was called the Blue Goose, and it is said that Mr. Cressey always kept a barrel of whiskey in the back room in case of an emergency. In 1863, he built a store where the Wethy Block now is, and moved the Blue Goose there. The Cresseys lived upstairs over the Blue Goose. My mother and Mrs. Cressey were great friends, and one time my mother came to visit Mrs. Cressey. At that time the Larkin drygoods store stood where the Midland County Savings Bank now is, and my mother was looking out of the window one morning, when a dapper looking young man crossed the street. My mother called Mrs. Cressey and asked who the fine looking young man was. Mrs. Cressey said that was Will Ball and that is how I am writing this paper.

George Ball and family moved to Midland in April 1861, from Saginaw. They came up the river on a boat, the Belle Seymour, leaving Saginaw at 7:00 in the morning, reaching here at 12:00 at night. The first night they stayed at the hotel of Sam Sias and the house was so crowded that my father and uncles had to sleep on the floor. The next day they rented a little house on the river bank opposite where the Malcolm residence now is. In the summer of 1861 they built a hotel on the corner now occupied by Austin's drug store. Mr. Ball kept the hotel which he called

the Midland City House, for six years, then bought the Ball farm, buying a part of it from Charles Fitzhugh, Colonel Little and the rest the old Mission farm with the Mission buildings still standing.

At the time of my grandfather's coming here, there were no churches and the schoolhouse stood where the Unitarian church now is. William Cordley, brother-in-law of the lawyer Mr. Charles Brown, was teacher. There were about 150 inhabitants. Main Street was the only thoroughfare. There were sand and stumps everywhere. On the north side of the Tittabawassee River and down were the settlements of Sim Kent, Buttles, Arrance, Hubbards, Majors, Higgins, Whitman and Ellsworth. On the south side of the river were the Cranes, Wilcox and Odell settlements. On the Chippewa river were the Cronkrights, Wymans, Pattersons, Rathborns, Bartons, and Kelleys. Above Sturgeon Creek on the north side of the Tittabawassee were the settlements of Wells and Martin. Above the mouth of the Salt river were the Holmes, Allswede and Babcock settlements. There were two or three old families up in what is now Hope. Riley Marsh lived where the old Marsh house still stands on Main Street, and his brother, Alvin Marsh had a house on the corner where the Oil Station now stands. Riley Marsh was a character. When I was a child I always associated him in my mind with Santa Claus. He wore his hair long and his face was covered with whiskers; he had little merry brown eyes peeping out from his gray hair. He always had a bright smile and a jolly word for the children. He took his cows to pasture in the morning, getting home about dinner time. Then he had to go after them in the afternoon and it was nothing remarkable to hear him bringing them home about ten o'clock at night. He never was in a hurry. In the early days he and his brother Alvin were trappers, making a good living.

Maggie Cunningham came with Mr. Ball's family, working in the family five of six years. Then she went into the boarding house business, which she kept up nearly as long as she lived. Her boarding house was located where the Sjolander Block is.

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EARLY HISTORY OF MIDLAND

Midland Sun, Feb. 1, 1912 - A story read at the Monday Club by Mrs. E.H. Lyon. -- In the year of 1852 when my father, Charles S. Blodgett, came with his family from Brownhelm, Lorraine County, Ohio, and built a home in Midland County there were five or six other log houses in or near what is now Midland city but which was then known as "The Forks," so called by the Indians to designate this certain point where the one river flows into the other. The "Oxbow" was also named by them, it being a favorite camping ground for them.

The only church service in the county at that time was held in an Indian mission house on the southside of the river about opposite the Dow Chemical plant. This service was in charge of a Rev. Bradley of South Saginaw, then called Salina. My father, with his family, attended these services and we were welcomed by Pastor and Indians. I have a hymn book in my possession with the hymns printed in English on one page and in the language of the Chippewa Indians on the opposite page. This book was used at these meetings and was presented to my father by P.O. Johnson, a missionary whom he was instrumental in having sent here by the Detroit conference, in 1855. Mr. Johnson travelled from Isabella county to Saginaw holding services for the Indians and, where a home was open to him, a service for the few families that could be reached. I think I am right in saying that the first church service held in the county was in my father's home. Father also organized Sunday schools, taking charge of the service in the absence of a pastor or missionary.

Settlers were coming in rapidly at this time and in 1857, Midland circuit was organized at the Detroit annual conference of the Methodist Episcopal church held at Port Huron and Rufus H. Crane was appointed Pastor or Circuit Rider. The charges in his circuit were Midland, Bluffs, Cronks, Shields and Kings in Saginaw county. He lived in my fathers home during his work here and they worked zealously together for the upbuilding of the church and good citizenship. Many times the meetings were disturbed and broken up by a class of men who were not in sympathy with Christian civilization and it was necessary to have a guard outside to warn and protect them from violence. Although entirely blind, Rufus Crane is still living in Saginaw.

Samuel Clement, presiding elder of Flint, held the first quarterly conference in September, 1857. The court house was built that year and the services were held in the court room until the building of their church, the frame of which was built and enclosed in 1866. It was completed and dedicated Oct. 29, 1869, by John Reed, editor of the N.W. Christian Advocate, under the pastorate of John Hamilton.

The Indians were not hostile in 1852, in fact they were more friendly that was at times, either pleasant or convenient, opening the door and slipping into or out of the living room, seating themselves by the fireplace with a friendly "Ba Shoo," it might be one, two, or six in number, without so much as a "by your permission."

They were irrepressible beggars and were sure to ask for flour or pork or such and, when they received it, go away smiling or perhaps frowning as if they would have liked more but they were never quarrelsome if treated kindly, I cannot say however that they were welcome visitors as we always had a certain fear and distrust of them and were glad when they had disappeared.

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MIDLAND PIONEERS

by Ruth Ann Casadonte

PIONEER RECORD - September, 1983. Who inhabited the shores of the Tittabawassee and Chippewa Rivers at the area of their junction before 1835? Indians of many tribes lived or passed through the area -- Frenchmen, Jesuit Priests, fur traders, and surveyors -- many of their names unknown to us, traveled through or stayed for a while at Bamosey, The Forks, or The Bluffs -- early names of the junctions of these two well traveled rivers. For a detailed report on just what tribes canoed these waters and some tales of individual missionaries and traders, read "Stories of Men Who Traveled through Midland Before 1835" by Harold W. Moll and Norman G. Moll, and "An Indian Mission Near Midland," and "The First White People in Midland" by the former.

In 1835, Dr. Daniel Fitzhugh became one of the first landowners of the county of Midland. Although Dr. Fitzhugh returned to New York State, never making Midland his home, his purchase of some 700 acres was responsible for a number of the early pioneers settling here.

John Wyman was one of the men hired by Fitzhugh to clear his acreage and sell the lumber. For doing so he was given a portion of the land on which to live. Coming to the river from Saginaw in the Spring of 1837, Wyman built a cabin so his wife and young family could join him. It was here that Wyman's wife Sarah (Snyder) Wyman gave birth to Julia Ann on July 6, 1837. Julia Ann was the first white child known to have been born in Midland County. She must have been known by her middle name of Ann, however, for it was under this name that she was married to John McLane on August 19, 1856. Much later, Ann Street behind the present Midland County Court House was named to commemorate her birth. Also, between Ann Street and the Tittabawassee River is Wyman Street (there is no sign at present indicating "Wyman Street.")

The acreage belonging to Dr. Fitzhugh was described in a paper by Grace A. (Ball) Dow presented to the Monday Club sometime prior to March 1911: "Part of the old Ball farm, all the land down to the old waterworks back through where the Baptist Church used to stand, the point across the Tittabawassee River, the Herbert Sias farm and the Dow property back through East and West Park Drive down through Midland Park."

Streets were also named after two other men who arrived by mid-1837. Samuel Gordon and Charles Cronkright walked the entire distance from Saginaw. Cronkright's wife was Lydia Snyder, sister to Sarah Wyman. Their father Joseph Snyder, also arrived late in 1837. (The Midland Historic District Report, October 1978, suggests that Gordon Street was named after W.D. Gordon, attorney and Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives or perhaps S.B. Gordon, a clothier with T.E. McCann.)

On June 25, 1839, William A. Cronkright became the first white male child born in the county. According to the 1860 Federal Census of Midland County, he appears to be the fourth child of Charles and Lydia Cronkright; Daniel, Gilbert and Charles, Jr. having been born in New York.

Although Michigan became a state on January 26, 1837, with the capital at Detroit, it is apparent that Midland was just beginning to have the white man put down roots.

By 1838, Dr. Daniel Fitzhugh's son Charles came to help settle some of the land bought three years earlier by his father. Records also show that the Fitzhughs purchased land in Saginaw and Bay Counties.

Four or five years seem to have elapsed before another settler called "The Forks" home. Joseph C. Townsend, his wife, Mary and son Joseph C., Jr. are all listed on the 1850 Census of the county. It is also reported that Mr. Townsend, Sr. was the first white man to die in the county, although there is a discrepancy as to his death date. The Thomas and Eli Townsend families are also included on this 1850 Census.

At this point we reach the first controversial stage in a resumé of early settlement. Most recorded writings upon Midland County in the past have set forth John A. Whitman either as the first white settler to arrive, or as the first white settler to permanently remain here. Further research, however, definitely disproves such references. Mr. Whitman did play a vastly importantly part in the formative days of this county, was a real pioneer in every sense, our first county treasurer, and one of our most respected citizens. However, he was not the first white settler either to arrive or remain. Mr. Whitman was born January 18, 1814 in Rutland County, Vermont. In 1835 he lived at Crawford County, Pennsylvania, in 1838 in New York State, and reached Saginaw County in 1839. The Wymans, Cronkrights, Gordons, Snyders and Fitzhughs were all

established here when Mr. Whitman reached Saginaw in 1839. And all of them remained permanently, the only possible exception being that Mr. Wyman, in 1842, went back to Saginaw, temporarily, in order that his daughter could attend school. Upon opening of a school here, he hurriedly returned to the site upon which his daughter, Julia Ann, was born. Mr. Whitman, however was not yet in Midland County when the Wymans came back. This fact is attested to by reason that the Saginaw records show he held office there, as treasurer from 1839-1844. Further the records show that his first two sons, John A. Whitman, Jr. and James Whitman were both born at Saginaw, while the parents resided there. The John A. Whitman of our history came to Midland County, settling upon the East 1/2 of section 1, Ingersoll Township, near present day Mapleton, in 1844. (This paragraph is a quote from Midland County Centennial 1950).

The 1850 Census shows John A. Whitman, age 34, farmer, born in Vermont living with five children ages 8 to 1, all born in Michigan. The children are John A., James, Lucinda, Mary, and William. No wife is listed in this household. There are two other Whitman families residing in Midland on this census -- the Robert and Nathan Whitman families.

In addition to the Wyman, Fitzhugh, Gordon, Snyder, Cronkright, Townsend and Whitman families, other pioneers settled in Midland county before the 1850 Federal Census was taken. However, the enumeration of Midland County that year lacks many of their names.

An accounting shows all those recorded in Midland County in 1850 were residing in Midland Township. This was a total of 65 people in 10 different households. A further breakdown shows 22 were adults and 43 children. Of the 43 youngsters, 34 were under the age of 10.

The birthplaces of the 65 were interesting as well. Thirty-four were born in New York, 27 were born in Michigan, and one was born in each of the following states: Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and Massachusetts. Not surprisingly, the 27 individuals born in Michigan were all children 10 years of age or younger. Massachusetts-born William Johnson, 40, was the only black.

The surnames recorded on the first census of Midland County were: Arance, Davis, Fitzhugh, Johnson, Sherman, Townsend, Vance, and Whitman. One is struck by the fact that the Wyman, Snyder, Gordon, and Cronkright families are absent from the accounting.

Perhaps Joseph Snyder died before 1850, or possibly returned to Saginaw. Samuel Gordon is shown on the 1860 Federal Census of Midland County as 44 years old, living with Nicholas and Sally DePue., both age 50. It is reported that the Wymans went back to Saginaw to educate their children, returning in 1851 after the first school house was erected in Midland County. Perhaps the Cronkrights did likewise as both families appear on the 1860 census of this county.

In researching the Wyman surname in Midland one finds the following deaths recorded in "Midland County, Michigan Cemetery Records", published in 1981:

John Wyman 1802 - 1875
Sarah Wyman 1805 - 1883

John and Sarah are buried in the Vance Plot, Section G of the Midland Cemetery. In the Homer Township Cemetery.

John W. Wyman 1841 - 1921
Emily Wyman 1850 - 1936.

(According to a death record of John and Emily's daughter Cora, Emily's maiden name was Wells.)

Sarah (Snyder) Wyman's obituary appeared in the Midland Sun, March 1, 1883 on page one. It relates her death took place on February 16, 1883 at age 78 years and 11 days. Sarah was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. She went to western New York with her father at age 8 and was married in that state to John Wyman. They came to Michigan in 1836 and settled in Genessee County, where they lived until February of 1837 when they came to Midland County -- being the first white settlers here. Sarah (Snyder) Wyman was the mother of 8 children, 5 of whom were living at the time of her death.

Other research shows seven of those children to be: Daniel H., Mary, Margret, Erastus, Julia Ann, Lucy, and John Jr., probably born in that order. The 1860 census acknowledges Daniel H. as being married to Mary R. and Erastus' wife as Jane.

"Midland County, Michigan Miscellaneous Record Book - Marriages 1855 - 1871" gives us the following information:

Mary Wyman, 25 of Midland married John McConmide (McCormack?), 25 on September 11, 1859.

Margaret Wyman, 21, of Saginaw married Sanford S. Perkins, 25, of Saginaw on September 14, 1856.

Ann Wyman, 19, of Midland, married John McLane, 25, of Midland on August 19, 1856.

Mrs. John McLean (Ann Wyman) died April 5, 1886, the details of her funeral being on page one of the April 15, 1886 Midland newspaper.

Lucy Wyman (1839 - 1906) married one of the early settlers that made the 1850 Federal Census of the county. William (Billy) Vance reportedly rode into Midland in 1849 from Saginaw. New York-born Billy was only 14 years old in 1850 where he is found living with the Eli Townsend family. Two years later, with John McLane, he cleared the land that later became Main Street, Midland. By 1860 "Billy" had married Lucy Wyman and had two children, Charles H. and John Bion. A total of three sons and three daughters were born to Billy and Lucy, relates Claude John Vance, 4435 Flajole Road, Midland, great-grandson of the early settler. The Midland Daily News of April 20, 1983 tells of the Vance family, which now spans seven generations in Midland County. Mr. Vance recalls that Billy's father was William and his mother was Margaret (Gordon) Vance. "He was always referred to as "Billy", said Mr. Vance. (I'm curious to know whether Margaret Gordon was related to Samuel Gordon who came in 1837 from Saginaw.) Although Billy Vance was still living in 1911, five years after his wife's death, the year of his death was not recorded in "Midland County, Michigan Cemetery Records." (ED. NOTE: Midland County Obituary Index lists William Vance's death as either Jan. 7 or Feb. 7, 1918. The obituaries appeared Feb. 14 on page one of both the Midland Republican and Midland Sun. His birth date is either Jan. 22 or Jan. 26, 1836.)

Other death records show Charles Cronkright died December 28, 1880, age 71 years, 2 months, and his wife Lydia (Snyder) Cronkright died July 9, 1866 aged 53 years, 29 days.

A photograph of part of the family of Chester C. Townsend in front of the first frame house built in the City of Midland was included with the original article. The house was built in 1857 by Joseph C.

Townsend, Jr. The House was torn down in 1918. It stood at the end of Flint St., (later the 15th hole on the Currie Golf Course in Midland.)

Joseph built a second house in 1868 just east of the first one. It was still standing in 1950 during the County Centennial, and was occupied by Willis Briggs in 1958.

Joseph C. Townsend Sr. was born in 1788 in Mt. Morris, New York, one of eleven children. Mary (Polly) Cronkright was born in 1789 in Genessee County, New York. They were married in 1820 and had eleven children of whom three survived. Two of their surviving children were born in Mt. Morris, New York: Thomas in 1824 and Henry in 1832 (d. 1881).

Like many New England farmers, shortly after Henry's birth, Joseph and some of his brothers moved their families to Michigan. They followed the "Great Trail" west through Pennsylvania and Ohio, and the Saginaw Trail north to the village of Saginaw. It took his family eight months to reach the Saginaw Valley area.

In their wagon they lived in succession in the Saginaw, Laporte and Bullock Creek areas for short periods. Finally they settled in the Upper Forks area, later Midland, in 1835 or 1836 and built a cabin. Their third surviving son, Joseph C. Townsend, Jr., was born in the Laporte area of what became Midland County in 1834. Joseph Jr. was the first (male) white child born in what is now Midland County.

In 1853, when Midland Township was organized, the first election was held in Joseph Townsend Sr.'s cabin. His son Thomas was one of the election inspectors. Midland County had been organized three years earlier and included what is now Bay City, Gratiot County, and Roscommon County.

Joseph Sr. died in Midland at 76 in 1865. His wife, Polly, lived until 1881.

Two of Polly (Cronkright) Townsend's brothers, Charles and Daniel, followed the Townsends to the Midland area in 1837. They settled finally in what became Homer Township.

Charles Cronkright and his wife, Lydia, had a five-month old son, Charles, Jr., when they came from New York to Michigan. Their sons, William (born 1839) and Ira (born 1841) were the second and third male (white) children born in Midland County. They were cousins to Joseph Townsend Jr. The Townsend children and the Cronkrights only had Indians as playmates.

Charles Jr. was in real estate and lumbering. He married Mrs. Catherine Starks in 1862. Together they had five children, plus she had five from her first marriage. Charles filled many local political offices in Homer Township as an Independent.

Ira Cronkright was a farmer and lumberman. He married Adriana Adams in 1867 and had eight children. Ira, following his brother Charles' example, held several local political offices as a Republican.

In 1819, the Chippewa Indians ceded most of the Midland Territories to the United States keeping only two reservations. Little Forks was near where the Townsends settled and became Midland. Blackbird was located where Mapleton is now. In 1855 they ceded these lands to the United States and received a reservation in Isabella County. These were the Indians that the Cronkright children played with when they came to Midland. The Midlanders were sorry to see their Indian friends move.

The Chippewas fought the Battle of the "Ox-Bow" in 1833 against the Sauks about two and one-half miles west of Midland. The Chippewas won. This was about the time the Townsends were in Saginaw. (ED NOTE: This is another controversy -- did this fight ever really happen??)

Joseph C. Townsend Jr. grew up in what became Midland City and played with Indian children. At 14, he and an Indian friend, Paymoseygay, caught two live bear cubs in a tree. Paymoseygay's mother helped them shake the cubs from the tree. The mother bear threatened their return home, but Mr. Townsend, upon hearing the news, came to help, shooting the old she-bear just in time.

(The continuation of this article was compiled by Leo N. Townsend and written by Patricia J. Erckman. It was reprinted in the interest of the preservation of local history by the Midland County Historical Society.)

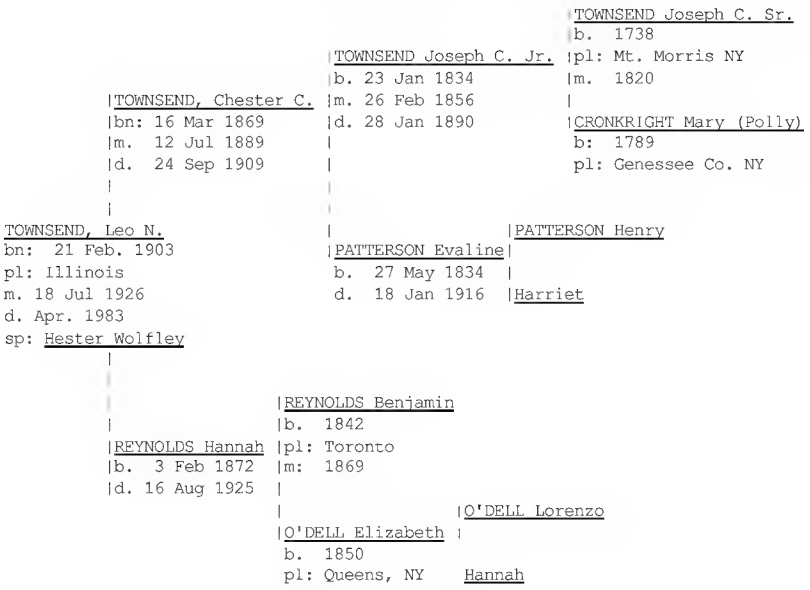
Joseph Townsend married Evaline Patterson in 1856. She was born in 1834 in Midland and raised here by her parents, Henry and Harriet Patterson. Joseph and Evaline reared eleven children: Cora, Ann, Emoline, Harriet, Jacob, Angeline, Chester, Cornelia, Ianthia, Sophronia and Geneva.

Just before their marriage, Joseph built the first house in Midland at the end of Flint Street (now the 15th green at the Currie Municipal Golf Course). His children were born there and some of his son Chester's

children. In 1868, Joseph built a second house 300 feet away. It was still standing and inhabited in 1950 during Midland's Centennial. The first house was torn down in 1918 because it needed many repairs. In 1958, the owner of the second house, Willis Briggs, sold it and it was subsequently torn down.

A drayman, Joseph Jr. carted the supplies of Herbert H. Dow to a local gristmill. This is where Dow began his bromine experiments.

TOWNSEND FAMILY PEDIGREE CHART



Joseph Townsend Jr. was a republican. With the backing of the Greenback and Independent parties, he remained in local office for many years. He was a Notary Public, County Agent of the State Board of Charities, Superintendent of the Poor, County Coroner and sometimes acted as Constable.

In 1890 Joseph died at the age of 56. His wife Evaline lived until 1916, spending the last seven years of her life helping look after her grandson, Leo, while he was sick. With the death of Eveline the Midland Townsends no longer had family ties with the Townsends of Detroit and New York State.

Thomas Townsend, Joseph's older brother, lived in Midland until his death in 1881. His wife Augusta, and son Augustus, are buried near him. He was one of the first local judges.

Chester C. Townsend, born in 1869 in the first house of Joseph Townsend Jr., grew up in Midland with his brother and sisters. In 1889, he married Hannah Reynolds. The daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth (O'Dell) Reynolds, Hannah, was born in 1872 and raised in Midland.

Chester and Hannah had two children in Joseph Jr.'s first house: Joseph (1890 to 1892) and Beatrice (1893). To find work Chester and his family followed Hannah's parents to the Chicago area. They had Arthur (1896 to 1975), Lloyd (1900 to 1969) and Leo (1902 to 1983) while living in Whiting, Lake County, Indiana.

Chester worked for the Standard Oil Company in Whiting from 1894 to 1905 as a millwright foreman. Moving back to Midland in 1905, he worked as a carpenter and cabinetmaker in the woodshop at Dow Chemical Co.

Chester and Hannah had Leila (1906) and Roy (1909 to 1967) after returning to Midland. She was a semi-invalid with congestive heart failure by this time. He died in 1909 of typhoid and pneumonia. She died in 1925. Their son, Leo, went to live with Hannah's parents in 1909 because he was ill with typhoid, pneumonia and a succession of other childhood illnesses. His grandmothers, Evaline Townsend and Elizabeth Reynolds, told him stories of his ancestors to keep him occupied while confined to bed.

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EARLY MIDLAND DAYS

by Marjorie Lefler

October, 1949. George A. Moll, of Tittabawasse Street recalls that it was exactly 70 years ago this month he first came to Midland. He has many memories of early Midland.

Moll, born in Cincinnati, was going on 10 when he and his mother made the trip to Michigan to join his father here. "Father met us at the Station," says Moll, "and I well remember the first meal I ever ate in Michigan, it was at Maggie Cunningham's well-known eatery on Main Street, a place where many a logger and traveler in those days stopped to get a good square meal in Midland."

"The Midland housing situation was critical then, too," recalls Moll, "the only building father could find was the old tannery then located at the foot of the upper bridge here. So we fixed it up and moved in. I can remember later helping to dig out the big curing vats in the back yard, with their thick solid planking as good as the day it was laid."

Moll was a lumber-woods worker at the age of 17 and recalls the biggest roll away ever known, of the Famous Red Keg, the peak logging years of 1882-1883 on Michigan and the last drives of the Sturgeon and the west branch of the Kawkawlin River.

"I can remember seeing the Tittabawassee River plugged with logs from here to Liberty Beach in Saginaw," he says, "where they were sorted out to the 38 different mills in the Saginaw Valley."

Places of employment about Midland that Moll remembers are the Snake Creek shingle mill of John Molone, Cleveland wooden ware or the old Elm works on the flats, Reardon Brothers pail factory, the old grist mill and Salt Block on Main Street, Patrick's shingle mill and the head works located a little farther down river where he helped saw out the first cedar blocks for Midland's Main Street pavement.

"I was one of the Midland Salt and Lumber workers at the time of the big Blow-up in 1892," says Moll, " and believe I am the last one left to recall an explosion there that injured many and made history at the time."

Moll also worked on the Pere Marquette railroad and was section boy for more than 11 years before quitting to go to work at Dow, where

he states on September 27, 1932, he suffered an accident which cost him the fingers of his left hand.

Moll was married to Mrs. Angeline Bancroft in 1894 and children born to that union include Mrs. Clare O'Dell of Sanford, Mrs. Mattie Mathews, Midland, Mrs. Bruce Wray, Midland, Charles Moll of Gaylord, Mrs. Nettie Love, Midland, and the late Mrs. Alice Pomranky. He has 24 grandchildren and 44 great grandchildren and 2 great great grandchildren. His wife Angeline Bancroft Moll died in 1933.

Moll who served as City Councilman for 4th ward for 12 years will celebrate his 88th birthday December 23 of this year. "I can remember many, many thing of the old days," he says, "but few are the folks left hereabouts who can remember and talk over the old times with me. Nearly everyone I worked with or went to school with is gone now."

Moll, who for all his 80 years is still active, says he walks downtown most every day in hopes of finding someone to visit with, and he is often seen enjoying the ball games at Emerson Park.

"In 70 years of residence on the banks of the Tittabawassee I've seen many, many changes," he concludes," "Time was when the best suit in town could be bought for $9 or $10 and shoes $2.50 and time was when Tittabawassee Street, here by the upper bridge was lined with houses on both sides."

"But one thing that still remains is the same everlasting Tittabawassee River floods," He declared, a bit testily, "which for 70 years I have hoped to see controlled and for 70 years have still kept coming."

(George A. Moll died on June 18, 1954.)

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MIDLAND'S STREETS IN HISTORY
AS TOLD BY PIONEER RESIDENT

MIDLAND SUN - October 11, 1923. The following article, contributed by James J. Savage who is interested in preserving the early history of this city and vicinity, tells of the naming of our streets and why they were so named. Mr. Savage wishes to acknowledge the assistance given him by Fred Sias in securing much of the information.

In your interesting article in The Sun of September 20, 'Sidelights on Early History of Midland City', some new thoughts and information were brought to the writer, who now classes himself as one of the pioneers, having been here over 33 years. And the main thought that came to my attention was the names of some of the streets and after who named and in looking over the city map was surprised to see the large number of streets that I supposed were named after former residents.

And so I have taken a little of my spare time to interview older residents and look up ancient county and city history, and when the reader finishes he or she will be surprised at the large number of our streets that are named after people, who, in the long ago were conspicuous in a business, professional or other way with Midland's early making.

In your article you call attention to the fact that RODD Street, now one of our many beautiful residential streets was named after CHARLES RODD, a half breed Indian, who conducted a store on the river bank.

Attention in that same article is called to a Mr. ASHMAN, after which another of our main means of ingress into the city from the northeast was named, and which we have hopes will be another paved street in another year, as it has been taken over by the county, a very pleasing temporary improvement made and which will be welcomed when placed in the same class as RODD Street.

You also mention James EASTMAN who conducted the second store in Midland. After him the street running north from JEROME Street was named, but later changed to MIDLAND Avenue. What the reason was for making this change we are unable to ascertain. Seems that with Midland County, Midland Township and Midland City, this old street, to harmonize with the sentiment that goes with antiquities, should have

remained with the same name as laid out. We hope that this change will be made.

Charles FITZHUGH is mentioned as coming to Midland in 1837. The street running northeast from MAIN Street to CARPENTER Street on the east side of the Methodist Church, was named after this pioneer. Your article several times mentions BENSON Street, which is the one crossing the lower bridge. This street was named after Charles BENSON, who at an early day was the owner of the present county farm. Mr. FITZHUGH, who was a doctor, located all of the river flat land, now the Fourth Ward, extending as far south and west as the Pine River and south of the Chippewa.

TOWNSEND Street, was named after Joseph C. TOWNSEND, who located in Midland early in 1850. He was a short, thick set makeup, and was a great friend to William VANCE, who was the father of John and Charles VANCE who are both living, one in Bay City, and one in Midland in the Fourth Ward.

CRONKRIGHT Street, next east of TOWNSEND, and running to the M.C. railroad tracks, was named after Uncle Abe CRONKRIGHT, whose grandchildren and great grandchildren live in the city and immediate vicinity. Mr. CRONKRIGHT settled here before the government had made a survey of this section.

HALEY Street, now the main street of the First Ward, was named after John HALEY, active in the earlier lumbering days of the firm of HALEY & COVERT. The present farm occupied by H.A. Crane was known in the writer's time as the COVERT farm, while the farm on which the present Catholic cemetery was located by Mr. HALEY, and is still owned by his widow, who still survives him. Mrs. W.F. RYAN is a daughter of Mr. HALEY.

FOURNIE Street, the next street east of HALEY Street in the First Ward, was named after Charles FOURNIE, active in the lumber operations of that early day, and later for many years in charge of our city water plant.

LARKIN Street, the first street east and paralleling MAIN Street, was named after John LARKIN, who can truthfully be named the pioneer par excellence of the then Midland City and a tract of surrounding country miles in extent. Mr. LARKIN came to Midland first to hunt and to trap, and located here in December, 1835 at the 'Bluffs', three miles south and the following January located on the present site of Midland where the present chemical plant now stands. His first residence

was a log house with the cracks chinked with clay. mud. For months Mrs. LARKIN would not see the face of a white woman, with the exception of Charles RODD, and his daughter, half breed Indians, her society was that native Indians, who were plentiful and harmless except when intoxicated. These Indians occupied the lands on the South side of the river and lived in bark shanties with the exception of one of their tribe, who was a little more 'crusty' and had a palatial residence made of logs. The land on which the BAKER Block and William O'BRIEN'S stores now stand and running back to the P.M. Railroad, was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. LARKIN as a residence up to thirty years ago when it was acquired by W.L. BAKER and Mr. O'BRIEN and the present buildings erected thereon. The house was moved to vacant lots on McDONALD Street and are now the residence of George MATTHEWS and Mrs. Charles BERGTOLD, the original large residences being sufficient for two commodious homes. Mr. LARKIN also has a monument to his public spiritedness the large block that bears his name at the corner of MAIN and McDONALD Streets.

Are you aware that Midland has a WYMAN Street? It has been named after an early settler, John WYMAN, and lies between the P.M. railroad tracks and the river between BENSON and GORDON.

ANN Street, where the P.M. railroad enters the city, is named after ANN WYMAN, the first white child born in Midland County.

ELLSWORTH, the second street paralleling MAIN and now a paved thoroughfare, was named after 'Nate' ELLSWORTH, an early hunter and trapper. And these early trappers sold their furs to John LARKIN, who was the local agent for the Hudson Bay Fur Company, who handled all the furs of this northeast territory.

BUTTLES, the third street back paralleling MAIN Street, was named after Walter BUTTLES, an early hunter and trapper. He lived where the clock room of the present chemical plant now stands. Mrs. LARKIN, wife of John LARKIN, above mentioned, as a maiden was Amanda BUTTLES, and it would not be improbable that the street might have also been named as an honor to her, of which she was deserving.

HINES, the first street paralleling the M.C. railroad track northeast of MAIN Street was named for William HINES, an uncle of Thomas Hines now living in the 600 block on ASHMAN Street - a cobble stone house.

CARPENTER, one street beyond HINES, was named after T.J. CARPENTER, who, at the time of his death, lived in a large rambling house on the land on MAIN Street west of the Brown Lumber

Company's offices. The house at present is owned by James McKEITH at the corner of LARKIN and JEROME Streets, and nearly covers one lot. Mr. CARPENTER located large tracts of timber lands in this section, and was active in the earlier business life of the community in the then dominant industry - lumbering and manufacturing various products therefrom.

PATTERSON Street in the Fourth Ward was named after a man of that name who was an early settler and one home owner of what is now known as the SMELZER farm adjoining the Fred SIAS farm.

What is now known as PARK Drive was first platted as the McEWAN addition, and in the earlier addition was a McGREGOR Street named after John McGREGOR, Sr. whose son now lives at Ann Arbor and who married Miss Lizzie SIAS, which latter name is well known all down the pages of time from the earlier settlement of this section to the present. Mr. McGREGOR was interested in the lumber industry to quite a large extend. From 1855 to 1873 two brothers named JEROME were extensively engaged in lumbering operations in the Saginaw Valley and this district. The older, David H. was governor of the state from 1831 to 1833. His brother 'TIFF' was associated with him in a hardware business at Saginaw. From one or both of these brothers the street just west of the M.E. Church and running northeast was undoubtedly named.

REARDON Street lies at the northeast end of RODD. TOWNSEND and CRONKRIGHT in front of a large farm that was owned by a firm of that name who were interested up to a recent date in the mercantile life of the community. Two of these brothers still survive - William and John and are hale and hearty for their advanced years.

THAYER and SAYRE Streets were recently new platting and were in honor of W. E. THAYER, florist and John E. SAYRE, both living on EASTMAN Avenue (MIDLAND Avenue). RIPLEY, HUBBARD, GORDON and GEORGE Streets all were named in honor of earlier settlers and men conspicuous in the life of the community.

Were you aware of the fact that we had two PINE Streets, one in the Fourth Ward and one paralleling MAIN Street five streets back and running the length of the city? We also have FIRST, SECOND, and THIRD Avenues running off of EASTMAN (MIDLAND) Avenue toward PARK Drive, and FIRST, SECOND, and THIRD Streets in the First Ward. Would it not only save many mixups, but be appropriate to

name these three avenues after some of our present day citizens who have been notably prominent in the affairs of the community? T.W. CRISSEY, who as a publisher, has given much of his time and energy for the benefit of the community, is worthy of recognition. H.H. DOW has stamped his personality upon the community in the large industry he has established here. He needs no streets to commemorate his memory, however, it would not be inappropriate to recognize his efforts. G. Will BALL, one of our older surviving residents has been in past years active in the commercial and mercantile business of the community. "BALL Avenue" would be appropriate.

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MIDLAND COUNTY DEEDS

The Midland Genealogical Society has been given a box of several hundred ORIGINAL legal papers, mostly deeds, but also a few wills or mortgages. The deeds are to land tranactions in the county or by county residents. The time period covered is from 1857 to the 1930's. A number are completely hand written and some are original land grants. Many of the papers are of more than passing interest. Here are those from the 1850's and 1860's.

1850's.

1) Warranty Deed - Amasa Rust and Marrietta Rust to Joseph A. Robinson. Recorded in Deed Book A. pp. 369-370. June 22, 1857. $100 for 80 acres of land. South 1/2 of SW 1/4 Section 12 Township 16 North of Range 1 West.

2) Mortgage - A. Warner Thompson and Martha his wife to Myron(?) P. Pollock. Recorded in Mortgage book A on pp. 128-130 Jan. 16, 1858. $650 for 8 acres of land "commencing on the Tittabawassee river at the lower end of the recorded plat of Midland City", (next follows a long survey of the parcel (Signed by Solon Rumrill as Reg. of deeds & H.O. Ashmun.)

3) Mortgage - Charles Simmons to William B. Fowler. Recorded in Book A of Mortgages pp. 174-175. May 1, 1858. $200 and interest for 114 acres. East frac. of SE frac. 1/4 of sec. 34 in Town 15 north of Range 1 East.

4) Quit Claim Deed - Charles Simmons to William B. Fowler. $300 for 114 acres. Recorded in Book B of deeds p. 165 Dec. 27, 1858. East frac. of SE frac. 1/4 of Sec. 34 Twp. 15 north of range 1 East. (Signed by Solon Rumrill as Reg. of deeds & John Larkin as J.P.)

5) Deed. - State of Michigan to William D. Fitzhugh of Mt. Morris, NY. Recorded in Deed Book B pp. 390-391 Sep. 17, 1859. $20.36 for 6 parcels of land totaling 304 acres in Township 16 north Range 1 west. (Signed by Whitney Jones, auditor general, State of Michigan.)

6) Warranty Deed - Lysander S. Will of Ionia to Geo. W. Pratt of New York City. No record notation. $575 for 80 acres of land in Isabella Co. SW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of sec. no. 20 Town 14 north of Range 5 west and the SW 1/4 of sec. no. 25 Town 14 north of Range 5 west.

1860's

7) Quit Claim Deed from William D. Fitzhugh of Livingston, NY to Amasa Rust of Saginaw for $218 for 43 & 51/100 acres, the NW fraction E 1/4 of section 2 of Twp. 16 N, Range 1 W. Nov. 20, 1860.

8) Warranty Deed from Wilbur F. and Sarah Woodworth of Midland to Sarah M. B. Fox of Midland. $200 for Lot No. 4, Block 28 of the city of Midland, Aug. 15, 1860.

9) U.S. Land Patent No. 1693 to Josiah Dunlap, Private of Captain Leonard's Company, New York Militia, of the War of 1812, assigned to Amasa Rust. Signed by James Buchanan, President. 80 acres: S 1/2 of SE 1/4 of Section 28 Twp. 14 N of Range 2 W. Oct. 1, 1860.

10) U.S. Land Patent No. 39705 to Eliza Shayner, widow of Jacob Shayner, Private of Captain Binkley's Company, Ohio Miltia, of the War of 1812, assigned to Amasa Rust. Signed by James Buchanan, President. 80 acres: E 1/2 of SW 1/4 of Section 10 Twp. 16 N of Range 2 W. Oct. 1, 1860.

11) Warrantee Deed from Theodore and Abigail Howard of Saginaw to Garret Freeland of Tittabawassee, Saginaw Co. $100 for 40 acres: NW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Section 32 Twp. 14 N of Range 2 E. Dec. 27, 1860.

12) Warrantee deed from Aloney Rust and Jane Burt, his wife to Ezra Rust. For $1200, the S. 1/2 of NE 1/4 and the N. 1/2 of the SE 1/4 and the NE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of sec. 25, Twp. 14 N of Range 2 west and also SW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of NW 1/4 and the west part of NW 1/4 and the west part of theSW 1/4 of sec. 30of Twp. 14 N. & Range 1 west, and also the sw 1/4 of sec. 4 and N 1/2 of SE 1/4 and N 1/2 of NW 1/4 of sec. 9 and the N 1/2 of SE 1/4 and N 1/2 of sec. 9 and the N 1/2 of SE 1/4 and N 1/2 of SW sec. 5 and the entire portion of the SW

1/4 of NW 1/4 of sec. 4 all in Twp. 15 of range 3 west containing 1030 acres. Executed Aug. 16, 1859 and recorded May 17, 1864.

13) Warranty Deed - Theodore Howard and Abigail Howard to Garret Freeland for $100. The NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of sec. 33 in Twp. 14 north of range 2 east in the county of Midland, containing 40 acres. Executed Dec. 27, 1860.

14) Warranty Deed - Hezikiah D. Osborn to Charles Perkins, both of Midland Co. $90 for the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 and the SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of sec. 36 in Twp. 13 North of range 2 west containing 80 acres. Executed Apr. 2, 1863.

15) Quit Claim deed - James S. Eastman to John S. Eastman, both of Midland. $75 for the West 1/2 of the NE 1/4 sec. 22 of Twp. 14 north of range 1 east, containing 80 acres. Executed Jan. 4th, 1863.

16) Warranty Deed - Deodatus C. Whitwood of Detroit to John P. Philips of Detroit. $1000 for 360 acres. In Twp. 13 north Range 2 west, namely in sec. 34 the NE 1/4 and the north 1/2 of SE 1/4. In sec. 35 the NE 1/4 of of NW 1/4 and the west 1/2 of the NW 1/4. Executed Aug. 22, 1864. This land was part of 750,000 acres of Public Land which the Congress of the United States by an Act approved Aug. 26th 1852 granted to the State of Michigan for the purpose of construction of a Ship Canal around the Falls of the River St. Mary. Title to this land was conveyed to the SAINT MARY'S FALLS SHIP CANAL COMPANY May 2th, 1855 and they sold the land at public auction Sept. 2nd, 1863 to Deodatus C. Whitwood by deed dated Apr. 19, 1864.

17) Receipt from John R. Phillips of Wayne Co. to C.K. Robinson at East Saginaw. July 11th, 1865. $50 for the NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Section 35, Twp. 13, Range 2 W containing 44 acres, at $1.25 per acre

18) Receipt of January 18, 1866 from Charlotte S. Miller of Lapeer Co. to George C. Randolph and Cornelia M. Randolph acknowledging receipt in full for a mortgage dated July 18, 1865 and recorded in Midland county, Liber A of Mortgages, pages 606-607. A. Bacon, Register.

19) Quit Claim deed from William H. Lillie & Ellen M. Lillie of Saginaw to Isaac Parsons of Saginaw, $500 for several parcels of land in Gladwin County which were owned by the firm of Lillie & Parsons and also all the assets and property of the firm. November 6, 1867. (Gladwin Co. was organized from Midland Co. in 1855.)

20) Warrantee deed from James S. & Eliza A. Eastman of Midland to Isaac Parsons, Jr. of Saginaw, $1400 for several parcels of land in Gladwin Co. totaling 1117 acres. May 16, 1867.

21) Quit Claim deed form Charles M. Smith of Chicago to Charles K. Eddy of Saginaw. $1 for several parcels of land: E 1/2 of NW 1/4 and the W 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Sec. 12, Twp. 17 N, Range 1 E, containing 160 acres. Also the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Sec. 14 in Twp. 16 N and Range 1 E, containing 40 acres.

22) Discharge of Mortgage from Susan B. Mill (formerly Susan B. Palmer) of Cincinnatti to Michael B. Palmer and Marie B. Palmer of Midland, January 23, 1869. The mortgage date is Sep. 3, 1863.

23) Quit Claim deed. Charles K. Eddy of Saginaw to William Peters of Columbiaville, Lapeer Co. For $1, the E 1/2 of NW 1/4 and the W 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 12 Twp. 17 N of Range 1 E. Containing one hundred acres. Dated 20th June 1868.

24) Mortgage. Collins Avery to Orlinda Rathborn, both of Lincoln Twp., Midland Co. $300 for a part of the S 1/2 of NE 1/4 of Section 34 in Twp. 15 N and Range 1 E, commencing at a point where the Pere Marquette Railroad intersects the quarter line of said Section 34, running thence East 16 rods thence North ten rods thence West 16 rods thence South ten rods to place of beginning, containing one acre. Dated 2nd March, 1868. Witnesses: Henry Hart & Geo. F. Hemingway.

25) Warranty Deed. George W. Bell and wife Jennie to Joseph H. Robinson, both parties of Saginaw. $500 for the undivided 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 and the S 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of Section 6 and the NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of section 7 and the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of section 8 all in Town 13 N of Range 1 W containing 200 acres of land. Dated March 2, 1869.

26) Mortgage. Nelson Green to Francis P. Pierce, both of Midland. $700 for the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of section 26 in Township 13 N of Range 2 E. Dated July 22, 1869.

27) Warranty deed. Solomon Parker and Sarah Ann his wife to John L. Eastman. $100 for that parcel commencing at the stake where the Reserve line crosses the north line of section 31 Township 14 N of Range 2 E and the NW 1/4 running thence E on said section line about 80 rods to the corner of land sold to Lorenzo Daws, thence S about 60 rods to the reserve line, thence North Westerly along said line about 103 rods to the place of beginning containing 25 acres. Dated May 31, 1869. Witnesses: Henry Hart & Henry D. Rogers.

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FOUR EARLY MIDLAND HISTORY NOTES

by Harold W. Moll. 1961

THROUGH MIDLAND BY HORSE IN JUNE

The German Lutheran missionaries have left us bits of information about early Midland. They operated the Mission at Shing-wa-kaus-king (place of the little pines), later called Bethany, then Indian Town. This was on the Pine River just north of St. Louis. The only path to civilization was the Indian trail through Midland to Saginaw.

After the 1819 treaty with the Chippewa Indians, Chief Bemasiheh was forced to move his group from the south side of the confluent of the Pine and Chippewa Rivers to what is now known as the Coin and Farnham farms, just south of the Chippewa River on the Little Forks reservation.

An early name for Midland was Bamosey, probably a corruption of the German Bamissikeh. Phillip Gruett's English form was Paw maw se keh. The Indians knew the river junction as Ne-swa-waw-ko-sing or Nas-saw-o-wo-be-de-i-gani-pan-gishe.

In 1834 to 1836 the small pox scourge killed a large number of the Indians. After the treaty of 1835 Chief Bamessikeh purchased 465 acres of land at Shing-wa-kaus-king. The remnant of his tribe settled there.

The Polish missionary Ernest Baierlein wrote of his June trip in 1848 through the Little Forks with his interpreter, James Gruet as follows.

"If one left Saginaw City, that was named after the Saginaw River, and rode in a northwesterly direction, he came to the" 'Thaw-tippe-a-waso-ach River. This meant the river with neither falls or rapids as the river is and was in those days from Saginaw to Midland.' "As one traveled up the river about 20 miles he passes a few single log houses with long distances between them, and then came to the Chippewa River, where both rivers join.

"If the River were forded, which could be done in summer, when the water was low at the rapids, he came to a single log house, the last in

the region. The friendly dwellers received the travelers with a hearty welcome.

"Here all paths ceased and unbroken wilderness followed...As soon as the riders crossed the Chippewa River where the water reached up to the middle of the saddle...now they rode through a one and one-half mile swamp...The inhabitants of the swamp, thousands of mosquitoes...even the horse bled around the neck and could hardly see out of their eyes. As they left the swamp they came to an open space...The quide said, "Once upon a time Indians lived here. Small pox killed them." ...Suddenly the interpreter sprang from his horse and hastened to the bank of the river. There stood three stones about two feet high of a peculiar form, like a sculptured bust, but not carved by human hands...on them lay pieces of firmly pressed tobacco, the type that is chewed in America. The Indians had offered tobacco to their 'Manitous', spirits who they believed lived in these stones. The half-breed put the tobacco in his pocket and said, "That comes in handy as my supply is low."

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SLEIGH TRIP BY RIVER THROUGH MIDLAND IN WINTER

Ferdinand Sievers, director of the Mission Commission writes, "We spoke with the Indians and and found that we could make use of the ice on the Pine River in the months of January and February. So the second of February we left Saginaw City on two sleighs and headed for our first night's sleep at the forks of the beautiful Titti-pi-wasse(k) River. Although it is about 20 miles from Saginaw we arrived there in a short time. With great difficulty we found a lodging place for our two horses from a merciful tenant farmer by the name of Fitzhugh, and that was only a wretched box stall where our horses almost froze from the bitter cold, but naturally we were glad to be out of danger.

"The next morning we were up early because we had miles of miles of journey on the very rapid Pine River, along which there was not a single dwelling of clearing to be found.

"For the first five or six miles our two sleds went easily, but then the snow became deeper and there were ponds of water on the ice because of the recent thaw. The steep banks of the river were 20 to 30 feet high and because of very sharp bends the river was almost never

completely covered with ice, making it never very dependable and wasting much of our time. Often we were able to stay on top of the ice only by the mere swiftness of the horses. Shortly after noon we paused to rest the horses and warm ourselves by a roaring bonfire, then we continued on.

"The banks of the river showed a change. While on one side there were hardwood forest, above on the other high bank pines grew. Here the bends increased and the banks became higher and closer to the river making our progress slower and more dangerous. In one of these places my sleigh fell all the way through the ice into the water, causing an hours delay. Now the cold, the approach of night and our soaked clothing threatened to take our breaths, health and lives. Because my sleigh was broken as we tore it out of the ice and water we discarded both sleighs and went ahead on foot.

"As we broke our way through the forest with horses we saw the footprints of a multitude of wolves in the snow. Our boots and trousers were frozen into large chunks of ice making it nearly impossible to proceed. Never-the-less we increased our pace and struggled on overland for we could see that our lives were in danger. We finally arrived at Bethany (mission) at about 8 o'clock. Only with the help of cold water was I able to thaw out my frozen and swollen feet as we recovered in the warmth of the missionary cabin."

(ED NOTE: Bethany Mission was operated from about 1845 to 1869.)

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CHRISTMAS IN MIDLAND

The first Christmas celebrated in Midland was on December 25, 1675, by a Jesuit priest, 319 years ago.

Father Nouvel arrived at the Little Forks on December 7, 1675. He built a cabin of bark in the form of a bower. "The foundation of the chapel consisted of three logs from a great oak on which the chapel was built in the form of a bower...O, vocation to these beloved missions, Oh how right was the late Father Marquette of who...died close by here...We celebrated the festival of Christmas with much devotion. We made a small cradle beside our altar, to which our Christians came at midnight; and during the day they made the forest resound with their hymns in honor of the new-born Jesus. What joy it was for us, both

during the midnight mass and during the morning mass, to see the child Jesus acknowleged and adored by the savages of this country, where the demon had so long reigned."

In 1848 a Christmas was celebrated by a Protestant group. Baierlein, the Lutheran missionary writes, "In the meantime Christmas approached, and even in the wilderness it was to be celebrated in a Christian manner, in order to impress upon the children that Our Father in heaven had given His greatest gift, His Only Son on Christmas day to light our life. The house father tried to cheer the hearts of the children with gifts. For this the diligent hands of the missionary's wife were required to make jackets, shirts, aprons and kerchiefs, etc. This meant working far into the night. The short days were filled with her regular house work.

"A suitable Christmas song was to be sung, so the missionary translated Luther's song, 'From Heaven Above to Earth I Come' into the Chippewa language. This was not easy. The language has a unique mystery...

"When Christmas eve arrived, forty Indians came...After the sermon, there was a pause of expectation. The missionary with his helpmate, had cut a nice cedar for the Christmas tree and had it decorated beautifully. They still had to light the candles. The little bell rang. The door opened. A low 'Ah' came from all sides, as they saw the brightly lighted tree before them, full of fruit, in the middle of the winter. "Toyah!" This was something they had never seen or expected to see. Even Chief Bamessikeh smiled and was as a child. He exclaimed that he had never found a tree like that in all his forest.

"The children were now allowed to come forward, and found on the before mentioned wilderness table on which the tree stood, nineteen tin places. Each had a cookie, an apple and some nuts besides the housewife's hand made pieces of clothing. There was great joy and after they sang their Widi gishegong ishpiming, ets., once more with happy hearts, they were allowed to pick the fruit from the tree. Such was the first Christmas in the forest."

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CHARLES H. RODD'S MIDLAND ACCOUNT BOOK FOUND

About 1960, a box of books appeared on the steps of a library in one of Michigan's major cities (Ann Arbor). Upon sorting the books, most of very little value, the librarian found a 350 page, handwritten account book made by Charles H. Rodd. Mr. Rodd is memorialized in Midland by Rodd Street.

Charles Rodd operated a trading post on the west side of the Tittabawassee River across from Dow Chemical Company's No. 2 Clockroom. This is located at the south end of Main Street. A building near the trading post served as a Methodist Mission Church.

The book lists the transactions made by Charles Rodd in his trading post with over 100 different Indians and the local white settlers. He sold over 350 different items. How many different sizes of each is not revealed. It covers the period of October 6, 1854 to December 26, 1856.

Charles H. Rodd was born about 1814 to an Indian woman by the name of Naw-oke-zhe-go-qnay. He married an Indian girl named Martha around 1842. They had two children, Jane, born 1843 and David, born 1848. Jane was married in 1858 to Midland's Erastus Wyman, born 1833 to John Wyman and his wife Sally. Erastus and Jane had three children.

Charles H. Rodd is listed in the 1850 U.S. Saginaw area Census but does not appear in the 1860 Census. He served as an official U.S. interpreter for the Indian Treaty of 1866. Martha was a widow in 1868.

Each page in the Account Book is headed by a page number followed by the words, 'Midland' and the date. Each person listed had a code number. Items are priced in English Shillings and Pence as well as Yankee Dollars and Cents. Credit or debit is indicated. Often items such as furs, cranberries, potatoes, logs, etc., were traded for items wanted.

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1861 MICHIGAN STATE GAZETEER
Midland City

A small post village and capital of Midland county, situated at the head of steamboat navigation on the Tittabawassee river, 122 miles from Detroit; fare from Detroit, about $4.00. It contains one Methodist and one Presbyterian denomination, but no church edifices; a weekly newspaper, the Midland Sentinel, published by N.T. Carr; two lodges of Good Templar, two saw mills, two general stores, and a number of mechanics' shops. The Merchants receive their goods via Saginaw, thence to Midland by steamboat. It has three mails a week. Postmaster: John Larkins; township supervisor: N.T. Carr; clerk: William Condley.

List of Professions, Trades, Etc.

BACON, Asa, carpenter.
BAILEY, L.P., Lawyer and justice of the peace
BALL, G.F. hotel.
BRADLEY, A., carpenter.
CARPENTER & THOMPSON, saw mill.
CARR, N.T., editor and propietor of *Midland Sentinel*
EASTMAN, James S. & Co., general store.
GIBSON, D.G.W., general.
HARRIS, Watson, blacksmith.
HAYNES, William C., carpenter.
JENNINGS, Edwin P., physician.
LARKIN, John, saw mill.
LEROY, Peter, blacksmith.
LYONS, Henry, carriage maker.
McLANE, John T., carpenter.
MAJOR, James, justice of the peace.
MARTIN, T., cabinet maker.
PERKINS, Charles, carpenter and justice of the peace.
SIAS, Samuel, hotel.
WHITEHOUSE, J.H., physician and insurance agent.
WILSON, D.M.R., lawyer.

MIDLAND... A township in the county of Midland. It is pleasantly situated on the north bank of the Tittabawassee river, near the confluence of the Chippewa, 150 miles north-west from Detroit. It is connected by a tri-weekly steamer with Saginaw city and East Saginaw. Population: 500.

1863 MICHIGAN GAZETEER

Midland County...bounded on the north by Gladwin county, east by Bay and Saginaw, south by Saginaw and Gratiot, and west by Isabella, and containing an area of 576 square miles... The surface is level, in some parts gently undulating, and covered with a heavy growth of excellent timber. The soil is unsurpassed for farming purposes, being a rich black loam which produces wheat, corn, potatoes, etc. in the greatest profusion. But a small portion of the county is settled, the balance being an unbroken forest... The county has three organized townships, Ingersoll, Jerome, and Midland, with a total population of about 2,000. (NOTE: That the population quadrupled in two years; 1861-1863).

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A DAY IN THE LIFE OF ROSWELL B. GOTHAM

Two letters From the Civil War
Submitted by Helen Craig

Petersburg Virginia, April 29, 1865.

Dear Sister and Brother and all of you. i got yours of the 3 April a long time (ago) and was glad you Rote the leter. poor Biron was moldren in the Dust a traters ball fetched him a victum to Deth and on that day i was marching a prisner of ware under a Rebel Guard but thank God he has fetched me through safe so fare and i am thankful of it. i feel poor Bies loss But it Dont come so hard as poor franks Did fore he had Ben a way longer from me than he was But i miss him very mutch. I was in liby prison a little while. i cant tell you all i went through while i was with the Rebs i wasent with them But 8 Dase. But that was 8 Dase to long i will tell you all a Bout the Retriete from Richman if i had time But i hant got time. we went in the fite on the 2nd of April and i was captured and Biron was killed the same fite. he was hit three times. the other bios Sez. i Dident no he was killed till i got Back to the Co and that was on the 15 of the month. i hant had no leters Before Sense i was captured till now. Best our folks Dont no what trouble is if tha had went through what I have tha mint no a little a Bout how to enjoy the comferts of life when tha cod But we have all got to live and learn. i have had a hard lesson and paid Dear fore it to. But i thank God it is as well with me as it is. i Supose Some of the family is having a grate time over the money Belongs to the poor Bois that is no more But it is Something that i shant have no fuss over fore want fore the money i Didnt Earn and i want it as fore me to go tords taken care of mother as long as She livs and fore no wone else that is my feelings on the Subject. i Dont no as i agree with the Rest as to that But you .... mind a Bout it She is giting old and cant help her Self mutch. you all no as well as i do i Got a leter from her. i will Send it to you and you can see how things Run thare consernen the pension. i Shant Rot to all of our folks what i have Rote to you when you git the leter that is in Side of this Burn it up and Dont tell that i Sent it to you a tall. Dont tell any wane on the island. if you Do she will here of it. the ware has plade out. i have allways tride to Do Rite By my frends and Relation. you no oskir was with me a prisner. i cant Rite no more this

time so good by Rebeca and Bill and Ell and Clary.

Regards Roswell B. Gotham

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Petersburg Virginia, May the 24, 1865.

Dear Brother and Sister i Reseaved your kind leter to nite and was glad to here from. i am well thanke the lord fore i cant tell you nothing a Bout Biron this time and he is Bered a Bout 8 or 10 miles from where frankey is and he has got a Beter grave then thousands of other Bios fell. out Biron dident live But at little while. i went out on the old Battle ground a spell a go and i seen lages and feete in Boots and Skulls that wasent under ground there. poor fellows was killed last June and the Rebs wadent let us Bery them. our lins wase so close But some of our men last sumer Crep up in the nite and covered Some of them up as well as tha cod. these men i have just Spoke of. Poor frank save himself. i cant Rite mutch to nite for it is giting late and most Role call. i dont think that we had Beter medell with the Bois fore it ant a toll likly that thare is ent thing But frankes Bones left ant it is giting so warm that i Dont think it will be prudent to medell with them. i hant Seen Osker Sense i come Back. i dont think we will get out Before our time is out mutch. i cant think of any more to rite. tell Ell to be a good Boy and give my love to him and famly and Rily to. I shall like to see him and Bill and Rily so i will close. i will find out all i can a Bout Biron and let you no So good By Will and Rebeca Lettimer R.B.G.

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NOTE: Roswell B. Gotham enlisted in the 10th NY Heavy Artillery August 1862. His brothers, Francis (Frank) and Byron were also in the 10th. Roswell married Julia Farrow in New York, and after the war they settled in Larkin Township, Midland County, MI. They had 14 children.

Roswell was a brother of Fidela Gotham Howe. Fidella was the great-grandmother of Ken Craig of Midland County.

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MORTALITY CENSUS 1870
MIDLAND COUNTY MICHIGAN

The following townships reported deaths between June 1, 1869 and May 31, 1870. All details of deaths can be found on the schedule.

Homer Twp:	Wilbur NUTTER, age 1
	Ephraim WELLS, age 1
Ingersoll Twp:	Margaret McCULLOCK, age 27
	(Male) ATCHISON, age 1 day
	Cynes DEMON, age 28
	Mary DENAMA, age 3
Jasper Twp:	Calvin KIBBE, age 16
	John KIBBE, age 14
Jerome Twp:	Wm. J. ROOKER, age 6
	Henry R. ROOKER, age 4
	Allice McREVER, age 6
Lincoln Twp:	(Female) MARKLE, age 2 days
	Elizabeth PATTERSON, age 3
	Freeman MILLS, age 9 mos.
Midland Village:	Mary BENNISH, age 2 mos
	Wm. L. BUTLER, age 20
	Thomas POLLOCK, age 33
	Abba SUMNER, age 19
	Catherine CHARBONEAU, age 40
	Chas. B. WRIGHT, age 47
	Duncan McGILLS, age 30
	Donald SAXBY, age 7 mos
	Gertrude TAYLOR, age 24
	Verner STEARNS, age 1 mo
Midland Twp:	Catharine WHITMAN, age 4
	(Female) SMITH, age 1 day
	Edward A. BENSON, age 1
	Isa G. BUTTLES, age 11
	Peter CONNERS, age 24*
	Ira TURK, age 48
	Ida RANDALL, age 1

*"Conners worked in a camp making timber and came out to a house on the road and was shot in an affray."

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MORTALITY CENSUS 1880
MIDLAND COUNTY MICHIGAN
JUNE 1, 1879 TO MAY 31, 1880

STANFORD, Maria C., age 24y, married, born Mich., father born Mich., mother born NY; housewife; died Oct. 1879, tuberculosis; resided 8 months in county.

HALL, infant, age 22 days, born Mich; father born Mich; mother born Ireland; died Feb. 1880; inf. of lungs; resided 22 days here.

BRACE, Zebobia, age 27y, married, born Mich; father born Conn., mother born NY; died Oct. 1879; inflammation of womb; resided 18 years in county. "She had taken cold after confinement".

BROOKS, Margaret, age 65y, widow, born Penn.; parents born Germany; Died Aug 1879; inflammation from friction(?); resided in county 15 years.

WOOD, William, age 32y, single, born NY; parents born NY; farm laborer; died Dec. 1879, rheumatic heart; resided in county 16y; "He went to take homestead on line of Tuscola & Huron Counties and died in about 10 days. But in which county or name of town is unknown."

BURROUGHS, J.E., age 1y, born Mich; parents born Mich; died May 1880, inflammation of lungs; resided in county 1y ... doctor stated "amputation of thigh...congestive pneumonia" ...died in Flint, Genesee county, MI.

HORNLEY, Katherine, age 46y, widow, born Ireland; parents born Ireland; died Aug. 1879, disease of liver; resided in county 11y ... city of Porter.

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STAGES IN 1867

Midland. Nov. 1, 1867 - A line of stages has been put on the road between here and "Sixteen" by Avery and Chaffee. On and after Monday they will leave here every morning at 8 o'clock, returning will leave Sixteen at 7 a.m. arriving at noon. The route opens well and bids fair to prove a success; the country above is fast filling up with intelligent, enterprising people who must and will have communication with the outer world.

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CIRCUIT COURT - UNDER OATH?

MIDLAND TIMES - April 29, 1874. During the examination of Mrs. McCormick, an octogenarian; witness in the McCormick adultery trial, her age was asked which she stated as 40 but subsequently fixed as 35. One of her sons in court was 52. The witness was then asked if August was a winter month she replied she thought it was. This encouraged the counsel and she was asked the number of winter months, to which she replied, "November is one, December is two January is three, February is four March is five April is six. There are six sir in *this country*."

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MIDLAND COUNTY'S "OLDEST" LADY

by Mrs. Donald R. Wilson

The Pioneer Record of February 1984 carried a brief item from the Saginaw Daily Courier of April 16, 1878 telling of the death of "the oldest Lady in Midland County" -- Charlotte Ball Woodbury who had died three days earlier aged 94 years, 5 months and 9 days.

I have often seen her portrait which hung on the wall of her great-granddaughter's home, that of the late Mrs. Chester C. Kennedy on Larkin Street. "Grandma Ball" as she was called, wore a "voluminous black silk dress with collar and cuffs of lace, a tie of ribbon, a watch chain, lace mitts, a lace cap with ties and a handsome shawl of Lyons velvet adorned with fringe. Being of ample figure, she does not appear over dressed."

Mrs. Kennedy's mother, Mrs. B.B. Ball, has written of "Grandma Ball": She "came from Massachusetts to Midland in 1861 to make her home with her son, George F. Ball, one of the pioneers of the village, who was keeping hotel at the time ... she always attended the services of the Methodist circuit rider, as it was the only public worship until 1867 when the Presbyterian Church was organized and she brought her letter from Amherst, Massachusetts.

"Grandma Ball was a charming woman socially and was always pleased to receive courtesies and attention from those about her. Gentlemen hastened to assist her from the carriage or up the steps on her arrival at church. The lady was also quite fond of fine clothes and always dressed well.

"Her religious principles, in contrast, were quite austere; she believed it was wicked to walk in the orchard on Sunday afternoon and was a faithful reader of the Bible."

Descendants of "Grandma Ball" are still remembered and known in Midland. Among them are the late Marion Kennedy and Grace Ball Dow (Mrs. H.H. Dow) whose children and grandchildren continue to carry on the ideals of their ancestor.

It was my good fortune to know Mrs. Dow and to live near Mrs. Kennedy and Mrs. B.B. Ball, particularly, to whom I am indebted for my knowledge of "Grandma Ball."

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LOG PILE A SIGHT TO SEE AT AVERILL

Midland. March, 1881 - "We have been at Averill," wrote an unknown correspondent to the Midland paper March 31, 1881. "We went there Monday last, of course we had to look over that big 'log pile'."

"Mr. John Stratton very kindly piloted us about and gave some interesting facts," continued our correspondent, and proceeded forthwith to give a quite thorough "on the spot" report.

"The log bank is about three quarters of a mile long, reaches halfway across the Tittabawassee, six or eight rods, and way down into the mud at the bottom of the river, and high above the river with plenty of bad places to fall into. There are several logs there, but 18,000,000 feet is probably a large estimate.

"It was quite interesting to note the different marks on the ends of the logs. Here are some of them: JAKE, JAR, JIM, LOW, $14, 5 1/4, P2E, 4E (in a diamond) besides a mark in the shape of a snow shoe with the letter E in the center, and another of two nicely executed keys crossed. These marks are made quite deep and distinct, being struck on with a steel instrument.

"At the pleasant store of Mr. N.T. Stratton, we found that stereoscopic views of the 'bank' were for sale, so we secured some to send to less fortunate friends who are denied the privilege which we enjoyed. At the depot stood a long train of 30 cars loaded with logs waiting to be pitched off, or perhaps destined for Midland, Saginaw or Flint.

"Wright and Ketchum are building a warehouse at this point, in connection with which is to be a dwelling," concludes our observing correspondent, "It is stated that they also propose building a log road to Ox-Bow about five miles distant.

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A NEW CITY IN MIDLAND?

MIDLAND SUN(?) - July 14, 1881. Dr. Buell, one of the proprietors of Central City, the newly laid-out town on the Chippewa, called and showed us a beautiful plat of his pet "city" yesterday. It is as handsome a town as we ever saw--on paper. Avenues abound therein and streets and alleys all straight as gun barrels, public squares, banking grounds, parks and prospects and a mill privilege by a damsite.

Central City, the newly laid out town on the Chippewa, is situated on the east part of section 15, 330 acres; on the west half of section 14 and the NW 1/4 NW 1/4 section 23, 360 acres, in all 690 acres, T.14 N. R.2 W., half way between Midland and Mt. Pleasant, near the centre of the township and exactly in the the centre of the state, and within an inch of the geographical center of the world: If any man doubts it let him make the measurement and he will be convinced.

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HENRY C. ASHMAN

Following are two short stories about Henry C. Ashman as retold from the "Portrait and Biographical Record of Midland County", 1884. Note that although all the stories about him and the street in his honor are spelled 'Ashman', he himself wrote it 'Ashmun'.

Indian Shrewdness in Court

Henry C. Ashman, although a half breed Indian, was, in his day, accounted the most shrewd lawyer in Northern Michigan. The Bar of Saginaw would rather meet any lawyer in the state than Ashman, for his legal tricks almost always proved more than a match for their eloquence.

Henry went to Saginaw one day "on a bum," and it happened that an Irishman had stolen a pig from someone in the neighborhood and was then arraigned before his honor, Seth Willie. The complainant had employed eminent counsel, and the pig having been found in possession of the Irishman, his conviction seemed certain. The poor fellow from Erin did not seem to understand the gravity of the offence, and had not employed any lawyer to defend him. Henry Ashman, seeing a number of men gathered about the cabin where the Justice held his court, sauntered up to see what was going on. Esquire Willie happened to see Ashman coming and called him in. He told Henry to take charge of his prisoner's case, as he had employed no lawyer. Ashman said he would do it, but as he knew nothing whatever about the circumstances leading to the arrest, would first have to talk a few minutes with the Irishman. As there was but one room, in which the Esquire, counsel for the plaintiff and the loafers were crowded, Ashman asked that the prisoner be allowed to step outside for a few minutes. Leave being granted, they withdrew, and Ashman, taking the fellow around the corner of the house, said: "Did you steal that hog?" "Yes," said Pat. "Have you got any money," asked Ashman. "Tin dollars, me frind," answered the Irishman. "Then give me half of it," said Ashman, "and skip for the woods, and don't stop, for they'll have you sure if you're caught." The fellow handed five dollars and fled like a frightened deer for the woods, and to this date has never been heard of.

Ashman sat down on a stump outside and complacently lighted his pipe. After waiting, as the Justice thought long enough for the

necessary information to be obtained, a messenger was dispatched to tell them to come in. Ashman responded promptly, when the Justice seeing him alone, asked where the prisoner was. "Gone to H__l, D__n him!" said Ashman. "The D__d Irishman stole the hog an I wouldn't have anything to do with him. He confessed to me he stole the hog. Let him rip, and enter a verdict of guilty." This announcement was a poser to everybody but Ashman, but as the prisoner was "non est," nothing could be done.

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Swallowed the Account

At another time Mr. Ashman was employed by Frank Cole to defend his cause. P.C. Andre, a merchant, had sued him for a bill which had been accumulating for some time, and Cole refused to pay. Andre had kept no book account, but simply marked the items on a sheet of paper. He had every lawyer employed that resided in Saginaw, hoping by this means to keep Cole from employing any but a shyster, but in this he was mistaken. The trial commenced, and the lawyers for Andre chuckled with satisfaction as they imagined the discomfiture of Ashman. As no books had been kept, the account was brought into court and was lying on the table, around which was seated the legal luminaries with their books already marked at every point which had a bearing on their case.

Ashman's quick eye discerned the important paper which contained the items, dates, etc., and knowing that his client's case was hopeless unless this paper could be secured, cautiously reached out his hand, and while the attention of the attorneys was engaged elsewhere, he slipped the paper into his mouth in bits, and calmly chewed and swallowed the entire account! He was just finishing the last piece when one of his opponents noticed the maneuver and also missed the account.

"We are ready for trial, your honor," said Ashman, as he coolly expectorated the last mouthful of the well masticated account into the cuspidor. "If there be no objection I should like to look at the account against my client." said Ashman. A search for the paper failed to produce it. The lawyer who had noticed him manipulating the paper declared that Ashman had swallowed it. "Prove it, then," said this erratic individual. The account being thus disposed of, the case was dismissed at

complainant's cost, and another victory, although somewhat dishonestly gained was checked up against the Saginaw lawyers. Ashman was then and there voted the most adroit knave among them all.

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JONATHAN PIERCE

PORTRAIT & BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM OF MIDLAND COUNTY- 1884. Jonathan Pierce the host of the Exchange Hotel in Coleman, was born Feb. 19, 1821, in Oswego Co., NY. He was a son of Benjamin B. and Polly (French) Pierce. His father was born in August of 1785 and died Jan. 10, 1875. Jonathan's grandfather was one of the early settlers in the Wyoming Valley, Luzerne Co., PA and his wife and three children were among the 300 who in July, 1778, were massacred by the Tories and Indians. The family of Jonathan's father embraced five children, of whom our subject was the third child from the eldest. He lived at home and assisted on the farm during the summer months, and occupied his time winters in lumbering and teaching school, until he was 27 years old. He was also engaged in the lumbering and wood business on Oswego county 1869. The following year, 1870, Jonathan came to Midland City, this county. He engaged in partnership with a gentleman in the milling business at that place, but in the fall of the same year he went to Coleman and erected a steam saw-mill, which was destroyed by fire in 1874. It was supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. His family did not arrive until the fall of 1871. While the station house was being built at Coleman he boarded the railroad men, his wife doing the cooking and sending the meals to the hands.

Mr. Pierce was united in marriage April 13, 1848, in Cortland Co., NY to Miss Celista, daughter of James and Lois (Johnson) Burnham. Her parents died in Cortland County. She was born Dec. 9, 1824, in Cortland Co., NY.

Mr. and Mrs. Pierce are the parents of four children living, and one deceased. The living are Lois A., born Oct. 13, 1849; Priscilla A., Feb. 13, 1854; Clifton J., Dec. 25, 1858; Effie C., March 2, 1861; Leila B., Jan. 20, 1870, died Feb. 5, 1881.

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GOOD GRIT

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - 1884 - An old man, J.L. Fletcher, who was born in 1809, the first day of the year, the first day of the month and first day of the week, had sixteen teeth pulled a few days ago without taking chloroform. Four of the teeth required the strength of two men to pull them. Good grit.

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MIDLAND HISTORY INACCURATE

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - OCT. 31, 1884 - Mr. Wm. Simmons requests us to say that in the "History" of Midland, gotten up by Chapman Bros. of Chicago, the biographical sketch of Mr. Simmons is so inaccurate that he refused to take the copy intended for him. The date of his birth, the regiment to which he belonged and some other important matters were, he says, given wrong.

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A SORRY CASE

From the Midland Republican of 1889 comes the following article. The County Clerk has recently received a letter relative to certain divorce proceedings pending in the Circuit Court. It is not a laughable matter, but the letter itself is a little amusing. It is as follows:

MICHIGAN SOLDIER'S HOME, Grand Rapids, Mich. March the 4, 89. I just received a copy af a Supeeney in a case Penden a ganst me I wish to call your atenten to this pint If I rightly under stand the point you requir me to apear there on Defence in a case which my Wife has Brought a ganst me far a bill of devors. Tell the cort for me to Grant it for my Sake far the union is broken for ever betwixt us and I think they will hav a good long time to repent of all the past I feal that I oughto hav Sumthing out af the property She sold for I made it whit it is and in so dooing I encurd a ingry in performen the hard laber there of which I dont expect to recuver and expect to bee cared out of this hous buy the afects of it; and a littel money wald not cum mun exceptebel to procur what few nesery things I need. I also shall requever a copy of the prosedens of the testymoney in full and the full Name of all consurned in the mater I am willing the cort Grant the request For my sack pleas not wright nothing more to me and when I call for the copy pleas send it and if there is any money for me out of the property See that she sends it with in a few days for I expect to go away Soon be for the month is out

Direct to the Solders home Grand Rapids Kent Co Mich

Yours Respectfully

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MIDLAND 30 YEARS AGO

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - April 25, 1889. Here's a copy of the *Midland Sentinel* more than thirty years old - Dated September 21, 1858. It says that "Wm. Cross & Son have established a match factory in the town ship of Ingersoll, in this county." Where is that match factory now? A list of county officers shows that D.G.W. Whiting was sheriff; D.M.R. Wilson, Clerk; Solon Rumrill, Register; John Larkin, Treasurer; G.F. Hemingway, Prosecuting; J.G. Sutherland, Circuit court commissioner; S.D. Gaskill, Judge of probate; and George Turner, Surveyor. There seem to have been but five supervisors and they were as follows: Midland, C.D. Searrin; Ingersoll, C.S. Blodgett; Isabella, Gorgee (Probably George) Bradley; Jerome, Charles Perkins; Coleman, P.H. Estee. The paper announces that the Citizen's Association will on the following Saturday evening discuss the proposition, "That the works of Nature are more admirable than the works of Art."

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THE MAXELL - DAVIDS FAMILIES OF HOPE TOWNSHIP

by Marilyn Wakins & Wilma Davids Michael

PIONEER RECORD - April, 1889. John Maxell came to Midland County in April, 1873 and settled on 40 acres on section 14, Hope Township. John was born in Pittsburg Township, Canada, March 3, 1844, the son of William and Alice (Lavery) Maxell, natives of Ireland. Family tradition claims the the "w" was dropped from the Maxwell name in Ireland, then this branch of the family adopted the Protestant faith. His Parents and his brother William E. also came and settled in Hope Township. Alice (Lavery) Maxell died in October 1878.

May 24, 1867 John Maxell married Martha Jane Laurence who was the daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Parsley) Laurence. Martha was born in Ireland in 1844 and came to Canada with her father when she was 4 years old. Her mother died in Ireland and her father in Canada.

John and Martha Jane had 12 children:

1) Margaret A., born March 1868 in Galway Canada,
(Married 1 - an Owens and 2 - Charles Carey.

2) William Noble, born October 23, in Galway.
3) Susan, born June 6, 1870 in Galway
4) Mary A., born June 22, 1871.
5&6) Robert and Anthony (twins) April 1872 - died aged 3 days.
7) Jane Elizabeth, born May 16, 1873.
8) Robert Henry, born February 27, 1876 (lived north of Hope.)
9) Alice Susan, born June 4, 1878 (married George Hemingway and lived near Freeland, MI.)
10) Leonora Victoria, born May 2, 1880 (married Clarence Davids)
11) John I., born May 17, 1882.
12) Gertie May, born 1885.

Gertie May married James Ardee Davids on the 26 of November 1900 in Hope and lived her entire life in Hope Township. James was born April 10, 1881 in Chapin, MI, the son of Mary (Sommers) and Charles Davids. Between them, the Davids' probably knew every happening in Hope Township. She was the telephone operator for 30 years and James was the Mail carrier and owned the telephone company. At that time telephone companies were independently owned, servicing areas designated by the state. The most frequent call the telephone operator got was for the time. In early days the telephone switchboard was part of a wall in the dining room of the Davids family home -- in later years it got its own room which was remodeled from a portion of the porch. All of the Davids children knew how to run the switchboard because someone had to be available at all times. The switchboard had a night alarm for the infrequent calls at night. The Davids had 8 children, all of whom lived the majority of their adult life in Midland County.

1) Pearl, (married Russell Murphy)
2) Vera, (never married -- taught school for about 50 years - most of them as a 3rd grade teacher at State Street School.)
3) Laurence (married Ruth Price of Arenac County)
4) Bessie (married Winslow Sias)

5) Maxell (married Elnora Hepinstall of Ingersoll Township, Midland county)
6) Frederick (married Kathleen Dowdel -- Fred was a past director of the Michigan State Police)
7) Dorothea (married William Graves)
8) Wilma (married Albert Michael)

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THE TITTABAWASSEE BOOM COMPANY

Midland Sun - Oct. 15, 1889. The Tittabawassee Boom Company closed operations for the season, the 8th, having rafted 295,000,000 feet this season.

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THE DEADLY REVOLVER

Two Brothers, Thomas and John Bailey Dangerously Shot
Sunday Evening at Bullock Creek

Midland Republican, July 2, 1891 - Sunday evening about the time church services were closing, Mr. J. Erway of Bullock Creek, three or four miles south from Midland in Midland township drove rapidly into town for a physician and bringing the startling news that Thomas and John Bailey, brothers had been shot by a neighbor, Ed. Ostrander.

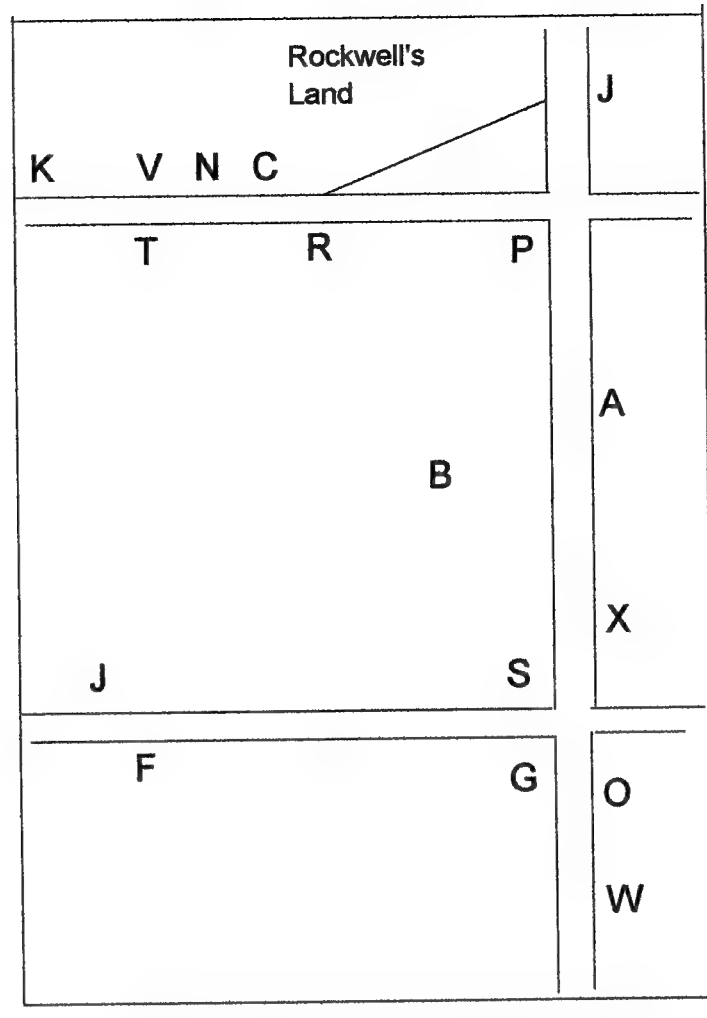
Dr. McCallum and soon after Dr. Towsley, hastened to the scene. The two brothers had been removed to the home of their uncle, Mr. Ed. Bailey, the shooting having occurred almost in front of his house. It was found that Thomas, about twenty-five years of age and having a wife and two children had received a bullet in the left groin, which had lodged probably in the pelvic cavity. John his brother, about 21 years old, was apparently more dangerously hurt. A bullet from the same revolver, caliber 38, had entered his left breast about an inch below the nipple and an inch to the left of it. It had passed through and lodged just under the skin at the left of the spine at a point about five inches lower then the entrance. Both men were made as comfortable as possible, and it was believed that there were good chances for the recovery of both.

Soon after the shooting, Mr. Ostrander accompanied by Mr. Ackerman came to Midland and gave himself up to the sheriff. He was placed in jail and on Monday was arraigned before Justice Fairchild and examination set for the 13th of July. Bail was fixed at $1000 and was readily furnished.

The affair is a most unfortunate and sad one. Mr. Ostrander is a young man and has a wife and two children. He and the Bailey boys have been very good friends until recently. Events earlier in the day had a bearing upon and lead up to the terrible occurrence of the evening. It appears according to reports, that a company of from eight to twelve, the Baileys among them, had met in the forenoon in a grove on Rockwell's land (see diagram) where they had one or two kegs of beer and indulged in a disgraceful carousal on what should have been a day of quiet. Mr. Ostrander, who works the farm of his mother, Mrs. Jennings, was at Homer Rumrill's, his wife being with him. One report is that some of the beer was sent to Rumrill's.

Some time before, in March, the house of Thomas Bailey had burned, and it is said that the insurance adjuster made some inquiries of Ostrander about the property, and that there was ill feeling growing out of this. At any rate, as reported, the carousers went to Rumrill's and demanded of Ostrander to come out and fight, a great deal of noise being made and language not adapted to Sunday used. Later in the day, Ostrander and wife started for home, Mrs. Jenning's house, when they were followed and attacked, clubs were thrown at them, and it is said he was told by one of the Baileys he would be killed within two days. Clubs were thrown at the house after it was reached. Later in the day, Ostrander was at Rumrill's again, and it is understood that the revolver was loaned him there, the feeling being that his life was in danger. He and his wife went to the home of J. Willard his brother-in-law, on the street south beyond the school House. They were returning when the disastrous meeting at first recorded, occurred. Reports of this meeting vary widely. One account is that the Baileys advanced and assaulted both Ostrander and his wife, that he warned them he would shoot, that they said his old revolver wasn't loaded. There is a ditch on each side of the wagon track and it is stated that Ostrander was in one of these when he finally fired. Another account is that Ostrander was the first to speak, the Baileys being several feet from him, one on each side of the track, that he told them to let him alone or he would shoot, and that he shot immediately, they being 10 or 12 feet away, first at Thomas, then turned, and instantly fired at John. Justice Erway came up about this time, and the sisters of the Bailey's and other friends at Ed. Baileys came out and the wounded men were taken to the house. It is not the province of the Republican to try the case. The testimony must be sifted in the court. We deeply regret the mournful affair, and it is probably safe to say that had it not been for strong drink, it would not have occurred. It is asserted that a keg of beer was bought in Midland Sunday morning and taken out there. Some of those engaged in the celebration broke into the vacant Vincent home, where it is said a stove was smashed and other mischief done, that Mr. William Bullock who has charge of the premises came over and was roughly treated.

The diagram gives a pretty correct notion of the relative positions of the points mentioned. The straight lines represent the roads, the east and west roads being a half mile apart, and the north and south road a mile east of the Bullock Creek school house.



Sketch map of the area where the Ostrander shooting took place.

LEGEND TO THE DIAGRAM.

X - The point in the road where the shooting occurred.
B - The residence of Ed. Bailey where the wounded men now are.
S - The Bailey School House at the corner south of Ed. Baileys.
R - Homer Rumrill's house where it is stated the first trouble began.
C - Bullock Creek bridge.
N - The narrow gauge railroad crossing.
V - Wallace Vincent's vacant house.
T - Mr. Trimmer's house.
K - Wm. Bullock's house.
P - Wm. Patterson's.
A - W.E. Ackerman's.
G - W.A. Greenleaf's house south of the school house.
O - Ed. Ostrander's own house now vacant.
W - J. Willard's house whence Ostrander and wife were returning when the shooting occurred.
F - Thomas Bailey's barn, near which his house was burned about three months ago.
J - Home of John Bailey, father of Thomas and John.

The diagonal line represents the path through the bushes along which Ostrander and wife were reported to have been followed when they left Rumrill's

July 6, 1891 - The Baileys, victims of the shooting affair, appear to be getting along quite comfortably. They were moved yesterday, on stretchers to their father's home. In the diagram given last week there were two points marked "J". That at the corner north from Bailey's and east of Rumrill's is Mrs. Jennings's home where Ed. Ostrander, her son lives. John Bailey's place is the "J" west from the school house, half a mile south of Mrs. Jennings's.

July 16, 1891 - The Bailey boys both appear to be getting along quite well; they do not have any unfavorable symptoms, have little if any fever, and it appears that they may both recover from the effects of their wounds.

July 16, 1891 - Examination of Ed. Ostrander in the Bailey shooting case occupied Monday and Tuesday in Fairchild's court and was adjourned to the 27th. Witnesses are not all able to be present. No evidence yet taken for the defense.

July 30, 1891 - The case of the People vs. Ostrander was called Monday. After two days work by the defence the case was adjourned until this morning. Both Tom and John Bailey were able to be in court.

August 6, 1891 - John Bailey is around town and gaining strength nicely. It is cause for congratulation to all parties that both brothers are recovering so rapidly from the effects of the shots received in the unfortunate affair which culminated so seriously. We hope nothing of the kind may again disturb the peace of any community in this county.

August 20, 1891 - The examination of E. Ostrander in relation to the shooting of the Bailey boys was ended last week, and Mr. Ostrander was held for trial in the Circuit Court, bail being fixed at $500.

Sept. 3, 1891 - Circuit Court. Four criminal cases were added to the Calendar for the August term of circuit court after the publication of last week, viz: The people vs. Coon Stewart, bastardy; Albert Fuller, larceny; Eddie Ostrander, assault with intent to kill; ...

October 8, 1891 - Circuit Court. People vs. Albert Fuller, larceny; plead guilty to simple larceny and was remanded to await sentence.

People vs. Philip Flock, embezzlement; continued.

People vs. Ostrander, assault; on trial.

October 11, 1891 - Circuit Court. The September term of circuit court having been adjourned to next Monday, business will open on that day with jury in attendance and sixteen cases on the calendar, of which four are in the criminal list, viz: 1. The People vs. Walter Scott charged with larceny; 2. Albert Fuller, same charge; 3. Philip Flock, embezzlement; 4. Eddie Ostrander, assault with intent to murder. Wm. D. Gordon

for the defense in the first, second and fourth. Prosecuting Attorney Post for the People in all.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY

Is what the Jury Find Ostrander Guilty of, After a Stubborn Six Days Contest.

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Earnest Work By the Attorneys.

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Over Three Hours Occupied in Finding This Peculiar Verdict of Guilty and Not Guilty.

October 15, 1891 - One of the most closely contested trials ever had in this county ended Tuesday night at 8 o'clock, the jury in the case of Eddie Ostrander charged with assault with intent to murder bringing in a verdict of "guilty of assault and battery," thus practically acquitting Mr. Ostrander of the charge of assault with intent to murder, or intent to do great bodily harm less than murder. The case for the people was ably conducted by Prosecuting Attorney F.L. Post and the defendant's interests were keenly cared for by Atty. W.D. Gordon. The taking of testimony was completed Monday. Tuesday was occupied by the exhaustive pleas of attorneys.

The theory of the prosecution was that Ostrander having coolly armed himself after the disturbance earlier in the day, had it in his mind to do violence to the Bailey boys if opportunity offered and that he rather sought the opportunity; while the defense claimed that he put the revolver in his pocket as a precaution because of threats of violence against him and that in walking down the street he had no reason to expect that he would come in contact with the Baileys and that he was attacked upon the public highway when in peaceful company with his wife, that because the threats before made and the manner of his antagonists he had reason to be and was in such great fear of violence that he was justified in his action, for which in the nature of the case there was not time for deliberation.

The testimony was very conflicting, especially with reference to the positions of the parties when the shooting was done and the first act of aggression at the time. It was also conflicting concerning the previous

events of the day, but there is no question from all the evidence that beer had its share in the proceedings notwithstanding it was Sunday.

Throughout the trial there were many listeners, a large representation naturally being there from the vicinity of the unfortunate and disgraceful occurrences of June 28. Many ladies were among the witnesses, and these with their children and friends were necessarily at the court house. There has been no trial here in a long time which has aroused so great a degree of interest.

THE JUDGE'S CHARGE

Judge Hart in his charge to the jury advised them that they might take into account the condition of Ostrander's mind, whether he apprehended great danger. Murder is an unlawful killing done with malice aforethought. They must consider whether had either of the wounded men died, Mr. Ostrander would have been guilty of murder, malice includes anger, hatred, revenge and other unlawful and unjustifiable motives. They must judge from the testimony whether malice existed. There is a presumption that a man intends to do what his acts are naturally calculated to accomplish. Either of these verdicts may be rendered: 1. A conviction making an assault with intent to commit the crime of murder. 2. Assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder. 3. Assault and battery alone. The second verdict would mean they find beyond reasonable doubt the shots were fired without right and with the intention to do harm more than a slight bruise or injury - something of a permanent nature. If they do not convict as in No. 1 or No. 2 they must consider No. 3. "Mr. Ostrander admits inflicting the wounds and these wounds will amount to an assault and battery unless you shall find from the testimony Mr. Ostrander was justifiable in doing what he did as being in self defense." "The law permits any man to defend himself and family from the assaults of another." One need not always wait till he is struck before striking if there are such demonstrations, motions, etc., as reasonably lead him to think he will be assaulted. But it must appear that his act is in some proportion to the fierceness of the attack. One is justified even in taking life if it appears to him that his life is in danger, or he is in danger of great bodily harm of serious and permanent nature. Nor can he be expected to act with that degree of coolness and judgement that one may exercise while listening to the testimony.

"If you find from the testimony that the defendant was acting in defense of himself and his wife and only did what he did in affording himself that protection which under the excitement, haste, and confusion of the moment seemed to him reasonably necessary to protect his life, or from a permanent injury to his person, he should be acquitted.

"Each one of you must be satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt of the defendant's guilt."

The burden of proof is on the people to establish the acts done and the intent. The jury is also to determine what witnesses in their judgement tell the truth, the same rule applying to the testimony of the defendant.

The jury went into their room at 4:45 by the court house clock and at 8 returned with their verdict as above stated. Court immediately adjourned to Wednesday morning when upon motion of Mr. Gordon 40 days were granted in which to make motion for a new trial or in arrest of judgement or to settle a bill of exceptions.

October 15, 1891 - CIRCUIT COURT. The circuit court has been almost entirely occupied with the Ostrander case. Arguments were heard Monday in the Jo Drain injunction suit. Decision reserved. Wednesday morning Albert Fuller of Gratiot County who pleaded guilty of larceny of a coat valued at $15 was released with sentence suspended, it appearing that he had already been in jail 120 days. Judge Hart talked very kindly to the young man who promised to do right hereafter. After disposing of the Ostrander matter, court adjourned to Monday next at o'clock.

Read the synopsis in this paper of Judge Hart's charge in the Ostrander case (the sentences in quotations are his exact words) and then say if Ostrander was not guilty of intent to do great bodily harm, how he could under the charge be guilty of assault and battery. By the verdict of assault and battery the jury say he did not act justifiably in self defense. Having said that, how can they reasonably say he did not mean to do great bodily harm? After deciding against the first and second possible verdicts, is not the only reasonable verdict one of "not guilty?" Was the verdict, as is alleged, a compromise between 3 and 4? Is it not as near to saying "guilty and not guilty" as is possible?

February 18, 1892 - CIRCUIT COURT. The most important business done in circuit court last week was the disposition of the case of Eddie Ostrander who was convicted of assault and battery in September term of court upon trial for intent to commit murder - the celebrated Ostrander-Bailey case. It will be remembered that forty days were allowed for the defendant to settle a bill of exceptions or move for a new trial. A motion was made Saturday by W.D. Gordon, Mr. Ostrander's attorney, for arrest of judgment and discharge of the prisoner, and he referred to a recent decision of the supreme court of Michigan in support of his motion, the decision in a similar case being to the effect that under the information the defendant could not be convicted of assault and battery. He might have been convicted simply of assault, or of assault with intent to do great bodily harm, but assault and battery was not covered by the information. Upon careful consideration of the bearing of the decision upon the case in hand, the motion was granted and Mr. Ostrander was discharged. That ends the matter.

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A PLEASANT TRIP

Midland Sun - October 15, 1891. Monday we accepted an invitation from Thos. Reardon to accompany him on a drive up through Hope, Edenville, and into Gladwin County, as far as Beaverton, a distance of 35 miles. We left Midland at 6:30, and had a very enjoyable trip, the fine farms and crops between here and Edenville proving conclusively that Midland is far from being a barren waste. One thing was brought forceably to our mind, and that was what a good thing for the county and for the city if we had a good road from here to the Clark settlement. From there to the county line the roads are very good, but from Midland they are too heavy for a farmer to bring a very large load or make very good time. After an hour's rest at Edenville we pushed on north up the Tobacco to the dam, and from there on to Beaverton. And right here we had an experience of poor roads and fast traveling over them that is enough for a lifetime, the six miles being traversed in an hour both going and coming.

After dinner at Beaverton, in which ample justice was done, the mills of the Ross brothers were visited. These gentlemen, both young men, put in their present plant two years ago, and are manufacturing 500 yards of cedar paving blocks daily, having shipped 250 cars this season; 30,000 cedar shingles daily, and railroad ties. There are 22 families in the place, 50 men being employed the year round. With the new bridge that has recently been built across the Tobacco and a new school house, the future prospects of Beaverton are quite flattering.

We started homeward at 2:00 o'clock, the genial Tom Moore at Edenville entertained us for another hour while the team were fed and watered, and seeming quite disappointed that we were unable to partake of his hospitality in the shape of a venison broil. Midland was reached at 7 p.m., the occupants of the buggy apparently being more fatigued than the horses. The 70 miles were covered in just 7 hours and 40 minutes actual traveling time, and when the condition of the six miles of road just before arriving at Beaverton is considered, as well as the heavy road between here and the Clark settlement, it is something more than we ever experienced or thought possible. We were very glad to dee this section of the county, and were happily surprised at the substantial farm buildings and improvements. We hope the near future may see a good outlet in the shape of improved roads for the products of this section, which nearly all are marketed at Midland.

At Beaverton, we had the pleasure of meeting J.H. Peters of Coleman, at which latter place he operates a factory for the manufacture of head linings for barrels, being small strips ingeniously made for holding in the heads of barrels. They are made of elm, 40 persons are employed and about 4,000 feet of elm logs are consumed dialy. The output is from 600,000 to 800,000 head linings and this factory supplies two thirds of the entire United States. He ships his product from Maine to Minnesota, and south to Florida and Texas. The present price at the mill is about 23 cents a thousand, and a single freight car will hold 1,500,000 linings. The machinery was designed by Mr. Peters and it required four linings to each barrel. Mr. Peters is a brother of R.G. Peters, the well-known Manistee businessman.

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SHOOTING ON CHIPPEWA ROAD

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN. April 10, 1894 - Sunday morning a young man named Haefka about 20 years old living about two miles out of town on Chippewa Road went to John Haywood's house nearby and while there a 10 year old son of Mr. Haywood took a 32 caliber, self-cocking revolver out of the bureau drawer and turning accidently shot Haefka, who stood only 10 feet away, between the center of the collar bone in front of the right shoulder.

"Dr. Magill was called immediately but has not located the bullet which was probably stopped by the shoulder blade. The patient was taken immediately to his home and is doing well."

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WILLIAM A. GREENLEAF - MIDLAND PIONEER

PIONEER RECORD - Feb. 1988. According to an account in the "Midland Sun", Dec. 14, 1894, William Greenleaf this week received from his sister in Munson, Maine, a box seven inches square and eighteen inches long that was made by his great uncle while a prisoner on a British man of war in 1730. It is all manufactured from cedar, and is handsomely carved, the only instrument used being a jack knife. Mr. Greenleaf also received a number of other relics that have been in the family from 50 to 100 years.

The "Portrait and Biographical Record of Midland County" states that William A. Greenleaf, farmer, section 33, Midland Township, is a son of Thomas and Mary (Young), natives of Maine. He was born in Mercer, that state, June 9, 1835, attended school until 18 years of age, and then learned the trade of carriage making. He then worked at his trade five years in South Carolina. Returning to his native state, he enlisted, April 18, 1861, in the Sixth Maine Volunteers, and served until the close of the war. During the first three years of his service he was in 23 general engagements.

After the war he returned to Maine, and two months afterward he came to Michigan. The first winter he worked in the woods, and in May, 1866 he came to Midland City, where he was employed two summers in carpentry, but continued in the lumber woods during the intervening winters. About 1868 he purchased 80 acres of land where he now resides; but from 1870 to 1881 he lived in Midland City, continuing at carpentry and lumbering, according to the season as above mentioned. He now has 25 acres under cultivation.

Mr. Greenleaf was married in Oakland Co., Mich., in September, 1866, to Mrs. Julia, daughter of Lambson and Roxy Livermore and widow of Amos Witter, who died in the army. She had by her first marriage one child, Alice by name and by her present marriage one child, Roxy M., born Aug. 21, 1868.

In general politics, Mr. Greenleaf votes with the Republicans.

The Greenleafs are buried in Midland City Cemetery, Mrs. Greenleaf having died in 1901 and Mr. Greenleaf in 1907.

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POSEYVILLE

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN, February 10, 1899 - For the benefit of some of the readers of the MIdland Republican who have never heard about Poseyville, here is a short description: Poseyville is a small city of about 135 inhabitants, situated about five miles south of the city of Midland. It has a two-story brick building, store and post office below and hall above, a brick school house, a brick church and other brick buildings. Among its early settlers were: Mr. David Thurber; Mr. Argyle, the present Jack's father; Mr. Steve Williams, now living near Freeland; Mr. William Johnston, Mr. George Anger, and a few others. Poseyville is noted for its good behavior, good looking girls and homely boys.

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Mr. N.L. JACKSON

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - FEB. 16, 1900 - Mr. N.L. Jackson has an odd looking little lather brush, the bone handle of which is marked "1776". It is well worn and was once owned by his great grandfather James Jackson who was a "loyalist" in revolutionary times and soon after the above date betook himself to Canada. Mr. Jackson says James was a brother of Andrew Jackson and that their grandfather James Jackson was born in Ireland about 250 years ago and was a sea captain, but forsook the sea and came to America. Mr. N.L. Jackson came to Midland from Detroit and is the father of Mrs. Clarence Fairchild.

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SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. WILCOX

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - OCTOBER 26, 1900. Hope, MI. D.M. Wilcox was struck by a train in Gladwin Oct. 13 and lived about one hour. He was brought to his home Oct. 13, and buried Oct. 14. Rev. Day preaching his funeral sermon. Deceased was 55 years and one week old. He leaves four daughters and one son to mourn his loss. They wish to express their heartfelt thanks to those who so kindly assisted them in their late bereavement.

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MIDLAND MAN'S ANCESTRY

MIDLAND SUN - Jan. 18, 1901. In these days of genealogical research, it is many times hard to trace the line with any degree of accuracy, this is so concise it is well worthy of note:

John Alden and Priscilla Mullins
Ruth Alden and John Bass
Sarah Bass and Ephraim Thayer
Esther Thayer and Moses French
Jonathan French and Abagail Richards
Jonathan French and Rebecca Farrar
Abagail French and Joseph Dow
Joseph Henry Dow and Sarah J. Bunnell
Herbert H. Dow and Grace A. Ball

Herbert H. Dow is the general manager of the Dow Chemical Co. of Midland, and is, as can readily be seen, the eighth direct descendant of historic John Alden, whose good wife Priscilla had to remind him to speak for himself instead of wooing so persistently for Miles Standish.

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FISH STORY

MIDLAND - JUNE 14, 1901 - Frank Teal made quite a catch the first day of the week. He caught a fish 43 inches long that weighed 17 1/4 pounds. While trying to land the finny monster, Mr. Teal reports that he fainted away three times and fell out of the boat once. A Fisherman always aims to tell a good story even if it is on himself.

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VISITS THE THEATER
SEES THINGS WITH HER NAKED EYE

MIDLAND SUN - August 15, 1902. (A Letter to the Editor).

Mr. Editor:

My dauter Sara Jane cum home last weak and we was amazin glad to see her, for she had ben workin for a hi tone lady hoo only lets her cum home wonst in two months and its very interestin to hav her tell us all the nuse.

Sez I to myself, this is jist the time for me to go to Detroit and take Sara Jane with me fur she's got smarter ways then her ma, bein as she's lived with hi tone peeple. Gotham sed we must hunt up his relashuns in the big city. You see its this way: Gothams ants first husbans sisters sun married Hiram Sweets wifes cousins step dauter.

Hiram Sweet lives in fine stile on Jefferson avenoo. His name is writ in the front dore, with a big brass lion in the front yard and a lovely black dog to tie the hosses on.

Well, we found the place but my hart went thumtytethump when we rung the dore bel and a colord darky opend the dore. Sez I, dont mister Sweet live here? Then he grinned very perlite and took a silver platter off the hall table and stuck it under my nose, sayin, card pleese. I reect in my poekit for my card whicht I hed made out of a purty blue paste board box and rit my name on. Well, you'd orter seen that darky rush up stairs grinnin all over his face.

It was then about haf past seven oclock and thare we sot in that hall til ait oclock then mister and misssue Sweet cum sailin down in flyin colors sayin we must skuse them as tha wus goin to the theatur. Du tel, sez I, we air just in time fur ime hankerin to go to the theater for i red in the Midland Sun that a preecher sed about theaters not bein the place for kristsnuns and ive ben propos for to jine the meetin house and I want to see jist wunst afore I jine if he is rite.

Missus Sweet tost her hed and sed she cood belong to the church and attend theaters too. Well, tha let us ride in thaire nise karridge but when we got to the opera house mister Sweet whisperd to the man and he took us up in the garret but tha went up into a cute leetle recess with purty curtins.

Well, we got a good seet where we cood look down an see all the purty drest lady's with luvly posys on thair chests. The music was playin jist as sweet as if we hed found the new jerusalum. All to wonst a little bell rung as a big curtin went up and thare stood a lot of yung wimmin that hedent hed time to get drest. O my but I was so shamed for em I jumped up and skreemed rite out, but Sara Jane grabd hold of my dress and sed kepe stil, fokes'll think we are from the country. Tha never rolled the curtin down to giv em time to put on more close. I lookt to see what the peeple was goin to do bout it, but thare sot white haired man and wimmen, yung fellers with thare best gurls settin thare gazing throo thare specticles stuck on the end of a stick, jist as plassid as the bablin brook in the brite sunshine.

Just think all them poor girls hed on was a shiny corset with lace ruffle round the top a leetle flounse round the bottom, not even a pair of pantelets on, I took my bandanner haunkercher and wiped the sweat from my classick brow and meditated. What if all the kristshuns in that big kumpany shood drop ded with hart ake at setch a site (for angels to weep over) encurridgin by thare pressens those beautiful gurls in sellin their modesty for gold that glitters? When Crist cums to make up his jewels will he look for them in the theater?

Well, mister Editor, we hev bot the webbin for our new factry and I hope that the commity of 25 you told bout last week will send in sum orders as a starter.

Ures truly, Mrs. Kesiah Strum

(Editorial Note: Told in Mrs. Strum's own unique style!)

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MIDLAND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

MIDLAND - MAY 6, 1904 - On February 8th, 1877, a meeting of the citizens of the county of Midland was held at the court house in Midland city with a view to organizing an agricultural society. The meeting was presided over by J.S. Eastman and B.F. Bradley acted as secretary. Speeches were made, committees appointed and articles of association adopted and thus was planted the germ of our present society. Our fairgrounds were purchased the same year and for the last twenty-seven years our society has held its annual fair thereon, and have gradually improved the conditions and appearance of those naturally beautiful grounds until we have one of the finest in the state. Its 1/2 mile race track cannot be beat. The present officers are: C.H. Bergtold, president; Ira Fales, treasurer; and H.L. Fairchild, secretary; and they are expecting to make the 28th annual fair to be held September 12, 13, 14 and 15, 1904, an all around success.

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EARLY HISTORY OF INGERSOLL

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - August 26, 1904. Paper by Wm. Sly at a Meeting of Ingersoll Farmers Club.

Ingersoll township lies in the southeastern corner of Midland County. It is numbered thirteen north and two east and is bounded on the north by Midland township, on the east and south by Saginaw county and on the west by Mt. Haley township.

The northeastern part of this township is crossed by the Tittabawassee River, which flows south, then east into Saginaw county.

Ingersoll is reckoned as one of the best agricultural townships in the county, the east half being an especially fine farming district.

Ingersoll contains no towns, it being so short a distance from Midland City, that point is made its chief market.

Smith's Crossing on the boundary line between Midland, Saginaw and Bay Counties, is a stopping point for all passenger trains, making it convenient for the farmers going to and from Midland City.

At one time Pay-mos-e-gay, the chief of the Blackbird Indians, made his head-quarters on the banks of the Tittabawassee, opposite the farm of John Whitman. The Indians lived there for at least thirty years in undisturbed peace. The bottoms along this river afforded them abundant pasturage for their ponies and abounded with game of all kinds. These lands were accounted their choicest hunting grounds and hundreds of deer, bear, and other game have been captured in their precincts.

John Whitman was the first settler in the township. He located here in 1844 and his daughter, Jane Whitman, now Mrs. Joseph Barton of Mt. Haley township was the first white child born in Ingersoll township. This event occurred in 1844.

In 1856 Mr. Samuel Gaskill who was the first settler in East Ingersoll came to this Township. Mr. Solon Hutchins, Mr. John Ostrander, Mr. Solomon Parker and Mr. Daniel Cramton came on the same year. It is also said that Mr. Gaskill brought the first cow to Ingersoll township. These men were physically strong, brave, healthy men and well fitted for the hardships of pioneer life.

These early settlers had to carry most of their provisions from Saginaw on trails or boat it up the Tittabawassee river, which was then thickly settled with Indians.

And like the pilgrims of old about ten years later there came another group of settlers to this township which was gladly welcomed by those which were here before. Among this group came some of the most enterprising man that our glorious township has yet embraced.

They are Henry Gould who has been one of the foremost men in helping towards the advancement of civilization.

Joseph Winslow and A.R. McMillan have both been supervisors for several years and held other important offices.

Mr. Thomas McCulloch and Mr. George Beckley have both been highway commissioners.

One of the earliest mentioned, Mr. John Ostrander was always called upon when there was some heavy load to carry.

One after another came till the eastern half of the township was very well peopled but brave and undaunted as they were, they seemed to dread the dark and dismal forest of the west half of the township until Mr. B.B. Bartlett, a well known citizen of Ingersoll township settled on sections 21 and 22 of said township with plenty of money and cleared about 700 acres of the finest farming lands in Midland County. He also paved the way for men with lesser means to penetrate into the forests and make homes for themselves.

Only a few years have passed since the first attempt was made to convert the unbroken forests of western Ingersoll into an agricultural district and home for civilized man.

The history of this township is possessed of no small degree of interest, While other counties were connected with large bodies of excellent lands, these seemed shut off from the gaze of shrewd speculators by reason of its heavy growth of timber they were destined to become the heritage of an honest, industrious people and the income derived from the timber and products of the soil has given many of the first comers a handsome competency.

Less than twenty five years ago there was some brave, strong, healthy men known as the Thurlow brothers, Samuel Garrett, Robert Closs and William Snyder came and settled in this township where with years of hardships, toil and difficulties they hewed down the gigantic elms and where the wildcat screamed in the unbroken forests can now be seen the blooming fields of grain.

The western part of Ingersoll contains some of the finest schools in the county and we can also hear the glorious peals of the church bell on

the Sabbath morning instead of the shotgun of twenty years ago.

In 1882 Mr. Hollingshead of this township was settled on the farm where he now lives and Mr. John Huggard a minister of the gospel while making his circuit for religious work traveled from Mr. Hollingshead's house which he said was unbroken forest from Mr. Gaskill's to Mr. Hollingshead's farm. As near as he could learn he was the first minister in the western part of the township for religious work. In this same year Mrs. Hollingshead and daughter treed a large black bear and kept it there all day till her husband came home. How many young ladies of Ingersoll would like to fight a bear?

William Franklin was the first settler on section 15 and he is known as one of the most peaceable and quiet citizens of Ingersoll township. Mr. Franklin owns 80 acres of land in section 15 and 16.

Another well known citizen was Mr. Jefferson Cron and Mr. Hepinstall also came with a large family of strong young men which seemed to mow down the forest like grass and soon helped to form one of the most beautiful and quiet neighborhoods in the township.

William McKay chopped the first tree in West Ingersoll and settled on the farm which now belongs to David Thurber in 1869. Mr. McKay got the lumber to build his house from Smith's Crossing and carried it across the river on floating logs and drew it by way of the ridge road past the Sayre farm with a yoke of oxen.

The first white child born in West Ingersoll was Minnie McKay, the second was Fred Argyle and the third was Willie McKay, and after this Mr. McKay says they came too numerous to mention.

After years of hardships Mr. McKay became weary of deprivations and sold his farm to David Thurber and as he states it, became a wanderer for some years and then becoming weary of wandering McKay came back and settled on the farm where he now lives. Mr. McKay has proven himself a prophet as well as a pioneer. Mr. Chancy Anible, a former citizen of Ingersoll made this remark to Mr. McKay: "McKay, you will starve to death up there in that swamp." and McKay being somewhat touched at this remark replied: "Anible, when the bushes and weeds drive you off your farm I will be running a binder on mine," and this has all come to pass.

Mr. David Thurber taking up the spade where Mr. McKay laid it down has made one of the most beautiful farms of the county, and he has held some of the most important offices of the township. We don't find him as a follower, but as a leader in all honorable work.

The beautiful farm now owned by Mr. Wm. Hepinstall was settled soon after Mr. McKay's farm by Mr. Stewart.

Mr. Klep also settled on the farm which belongs to Mr. Sol Gowing where he chopped and logged sixty acres. Afterwards he sold out to Mr. Gowing. Although Mr Gowing started in humble circumstances, he has gone forward until he now 160 acres all under good cultivation and is called the model farmer of Midland County.

One after another came till what we know as Poseyville, which was rightly tamed, was quite thickly settled, and as a landmark where Mr. McKay chopped the first tree was built one of the most beautiful little churches that Midland County affords, and it also has one of the best country stores of the county, which is owned and managed by James McDermot.

Last but not least of the great enterprises of Poseyville is the school which is called the best in the county, and they can boast of taking the prize at the school picnic of 1902.

After all these great enterprises were accomplished several attempts were made by Mr. Cook and other enterprising men to build a cheese factory, and after spending a great deal of money and time it seemed impossible until Mr. Aisle Locke, a prosperous young man took hold and built and managed the factory to a complete success.

Following the road which leads west from Poseyville corner we find some more of the good citizens of the township. Mr. Joseph McLaughlin, Levi McLaughlin, Colon Johnston, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Cook, Johnnie Franklin, Mr. Winchell and Mrs. Demmons, which forms another of Ingersoll's best neighborhoods.

The first school of the township was established in the early 60's where the school now stands at Laporte, and the first religious service was held in a log shanty near where David Milla's house now stands. The minister had to walk from Haynes's to what is now Laporte, his only guide being blazed trees.

Our Present town officers are George Riefenberg, supervisor, who was raised in Ingersoll township, Township Treasurer John Marshal; town clerk, who has lived nearly all his life in Ingersoll is Patrick Nagle. Thomas Reeves, our highway commissioner who has held his office for nearly twelve years, has built a great many new roads and has improved nearly all the roads in the township.

Last but not least of the great enterprising men of Ingersoll is known as Thomas Fisher. Mr. Fisher came to this township 18 years ago, although not a pioneer, and built a shanty and began clearing his land and now he has one of the finest homes in the township. With the help of Mr. Fisher and other enterprising men, we now find that Ingersoll township on the foam crested wave of prosperity.

The first mail route of this township was established in the early seventies. In 1902 another great event occurred in the history of Ingersoll township when the free delivery route was established, which brought every one's mail to their door.

In the spring of 1904 we are surprised to find a large steam dredge dredging out the channel of Swan Creek, so as to drain the waters from off the fertile land and make it suitable for cultivation. We also find the people of the eastern part of the township engaged in erecting a telephone which will soon be in every farm house of the township.

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DEATH OF A NATIVE PIONEER

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - June 30, 1905. One by one the early settlers and residents of Midland and vicinity are laying down the burdens of life and are being gathered to the everlasting rest. The one whose death is now recorded is called a native pioneer, because she was born December 14, 1839, at "The Forks," which was then the name for what is now Midland.

Mrs. William Vance was the daughter of John and Sarah Wyman, pioneers of the still earlier times; they having come here February 14, 1837, by sleigh from Saginaw. Miss Wyman was married March 21, 1856 to William Vance. For forty years they have lived on the farm where Tuesday June 27, at five p.m. she breathed her last after a long illness.

Their children were: Charles and John of Midland, Mrs. Thomas Beamish of North Bradley, Mrs. Phineas Cunningham of Crane, Mrs. G.B. Hammond who died June 1900 and Frederick E. Vance who was killed by a horse cart in Midland in 1887. There are 12 grandchildren. Mrs. Vance became a member of the Baptist church of Midland twenty years ago. The funeral was held Thurday at that church and a larger number followed the mourners of the good women to the cemetery.

Charles Vance, who was away at work, arrived the morning after the mother's death. Among those from away present at the funeral were Mrs. Robert McLain, a sister; Mrs. Weston of Saginaw, Mrs. John McLain & Mrs. Cora McLain of Alpena, Mrs. Scrafford of Gladwin, Mr. & Mrs. W. Perkins, Miss O. Bennett, Miss Jessie McLain, Henry Vance of Saginaw, Thomas Beamish & wife and 3 sons of North Bradley.

(ED NOTE: This lady was Lucy Wyman Vance, younger sister of Julia Ann Wyman)

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THIRTY-FIRST COMMENCEMENT OF MIDLAND HIGH SCHOOL

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - June 15, 1906. Exercises to be given at the Methodist Church next Thursday evening, June 21. There are 18 in the class of 1906, of whom 14 are of the Fair Sex. It is the largest class in the school's history.

In the Latin Course:	Marjorie E. Croskery, Hazel H. Dent, Mary G. Kelty, Helen M. Lane, Grace W. LaMay, Cecil M. Stebbins.
Scientific:	Ruth E. Ellis, Hazel B. Harper, Walter L. Main, Bessie L. Powell, Hattie B. Wood.
English:	Ethel M. Dobney.
Commercial-German	Ethelyn A. Callahan, Bernard R. Costello, Hazel F. Shoup.
English-German	William Murphy, M. Olive Wayne.
Commercial	John C. Johnson.

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MIDLAND HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - June 15, 1906. The following list gives the Alumni of Midland High School from the first class to the present time:

1876 - Hattie Wright (Osborne), Silas Wright, Eber H. Deyoe, Harmon L. Fairchild
1877 - William and David Belsher (dead), Jennie Belsher, Lottie Duncan (dead), Kate Duncan, Stella Jones
1878 - Hattie Sias (Towsley), D. Stanley Allen, Benjamin B. Ball, L.J. Belknap, Andrew Elmer, Frank Olmsted
1880 - Eva Allen (Atkinson), Nellie Bancroft, Tessie Duncan, Minnie Sharp, Ruth Highes (Renouf), Cora Lovell (Marrin), Blanche Mixer (Anneke)
1885 - Grant Barber, Lizzie Sias (McGregor)
1886 - Flora B. Miller
1887 - Lizzie B. Heald, Maud H. Sias (Lee), Will E. Reardon, Blanche Hinkley (Johnson), Grace A. Ball (Dow), Jessie Wells, Gertrude Hittell
1888 - Victoria Allen
1889 - Antointte Lynes (Beckwith), James A. Stowits (dead)
1890 - Bennona V. Walton, James S. Louwnsbury, Bell Hurd
1891 - Flora Sias (Hart), Georgia Sias, Andrew McKay
1892 - Oreb T. Crissey, Solomon Eddy, Alfred T. Rolston, Theron P. Waldo (Dead), Roy Hecox
1893 - Mae Thompson (Haley), Kenneth McKay, Lewis L. Burch
1894 - Nellie Lyons (Teal), Eva Maxwell, Wilbur Peterson, Dewey Rockwell (dead), Mildred Waldron (Stanford)
1895 - Ada Anderson, Avis Chapin (Cochrane), Laura Chesney, Anna Secor, Claude I. Crissey
1896 - Ray Hall, James Davidson, Carrie O. Dean, Grace Dewers (Winslow), Blanche Dorr (Brooks), Edna Gillick (Herrod), Anna Haley (Bradley), Amanda Phetteplace (Brock), Edith Sias (Hartman), Clifford Shoup, Warren Somerville, Maude Thompson, Dot Waldron (Frazier), Edith Bacon, Clifford Olmsted1897 - Silas Hart, Joseph Killeen, Leila Rice, Clement Shoup, Bruce Wallace
1897 - Silas Hart, Joseph Killeen, Leila Rice, Clement Shoup, Bruce Wallace.

1898 - Susie Amie (LaFlame), Hazel Anderson (Lane), Mory Cooper (Jacobs), Clarence Dent (dead), James Forman, Lizzie Higgins, Ethel McReavy (Mode), Sidney Main, William Sugnet, Annie Warner (Yott)

1899 - George Burd, Laura Foster, Harry Mustard, Christina McKay, Michael O'Neil, Emer Odekirk, Reed Richardson, Dessalee Ryan, Bertha Stanford (Barton), William Wismer, Weston Burrington, Weltha Skinner, Charles Ferries

1900 - Grace Anderson, Emma Aspin (Hickey), William Hinds, Walter Lee, Bennett Lyons, Jessie Richardson (Burd), Lillian Sugnet, Ora Wilson (dead), Bert Wismer, Mary Main, Joseph LeFevre, O'Brien O'Neil, Jessie Cooper

1901 - Vivian Crowley, Addie Duberville (Ellsworth), Harry Ferries, Ella M. McGregor, Laura Cook, Viva M. Stansel, Gilbert A. Currie, Robert Davidson (dead), Clarence Rice

1902 - Mabel Anderson, Anna Callahan (Coon), Hazel Foster, Harry Hinds, Maggie Reed, Beulah Stanton, Charles Sugnet, Viola Wilford, Goldie Foster, Ralph Heald, John Mustard, Erwin Leiphart, Fay Thompson

1903 - Agnes Ryan, Agnes McDonald (Rice), Edit Dent, Grace Burd, Harold Burd, Fred Rice, Maggie Aspin, Clarence Albee, Melvena Bravot, Emma Thorington, Jennie Forsburg, Olive Ames

1904 - Ivah Wismer, Hazel Stanton, Bina Anderson, Lottie Chapman, Edward Culver, Lorenzo Roeller, Mary Murphy, John Rice, Mark Thompson, Angus Currie, Genevieve Davidson, Bertha Ellis, Walter Milner, Roy Sias, Jay Smith, Eliza Everett, John Currie

1905 - Genevieve Kelty, William R. Crissey, Thomas Nehil, Mary Davison, I.H. Richardson, Hazel P. Swanton, Miles Main, E.M. Dunn

There were four teachers at the school, including the superintendent. The high school was located at the end of McDonald Street, where the present park is, bounded by E. Grove, Rodd, and Ashman Streets. A photograph of the school is included with the above article. In the June 22, 1906 issue of the paper, page 1, is a class picture of the graduates.

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GREATEST FLOOD EVER KNOWN IN THE HISTORY OF MIDLAND

THE BENSON STREET BRIDGE SWEPT AWAY

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - January 27, 1907. Forty eight hours of continuous downpour of rain and unusually warm temperatures accompanied by the heavy thaw Friday and Saturday, sent the old Tittabawassee river on the fiercest rampage it has ever known. In less than eight hours it tore over its banks, swept over the surrounding fields and bore down on the defenseless inhabitants. Never before had the flood advanced so rapidly. The water rose four inches in one hour on the level.

Sunday morning the raging torrent was full of immense cakes of ice a foot thick which attacked the center pier of the Benson Street bridge with terrible force, grinding and crunching against the unprotected piles. In a short time several of the piles were broken away and about eight o'clock the bridge was inclined nearly 17 inches up stream, the trembling and swaying could be easily noticed by the crowd on shore as each piece smashed away at the weakening pier. Many crossed on foot and in carriages all the morning, until 11:15 when the last vehicle passed over. At 11:30 the old bridge, which has so nobly withstood the ravaging floods of 36 years, gave up its struggle to maintain a safe footing on the banks of its persecutor and with a mighty final punch from a massive chunk of ice, fell with the groaning and shrieking of the parting timbers and broke in pieces, one of which swung around close to the bank and another lodging against the bank a short distance below. One piece, the fishermen at Smith's Crossing are said to have caught.

Great excitement prevailed throughout the city and the young hurricane which blew bitterly cold from the west, made things seem worse. Three people had a very narrow escape from certain death. Chas. Schwartz, a young man endeavoring to get to his home in the fourth ward, had proceeded on the bridge nearly ten feet when the crash came. He saved himself by jumping. Charlie and little sister Harriet Towsley started to cross over intending to go to Sunday school, but were stopped by Ed Ostrander who told them it was not safe; just then the bridge fell.

Sunday night and Monday morning was the time of greatest suffering that was ever known to the residents on the south side of the

river. Never before in the history of Midland had the water risen so high and in so short a time cut off all source of supply and much needed assistance. To add to the intense suffering of those who had to stand on tables and chairs of squat in low garrets without a fire in the house and icy water from one to three feet deep on the floors, the wind blew a piercing gale and the mercury hovered around the zero mark. Many cries for help could be heard Sunday night, but few dared to venture out into the inky blackness and fight against the wind and current through an inch or so of ice.

Very early Monday morning the work of rescue was begun by the more fortunate ones, no assistance from the north side of the river could be given, there being no way to get across.

In the small one story house of Frank Briggs was found Mr. Briggs standing waist deep in the water and an aged father, three small children on a table where they had been during the night without a fire.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hovey, who are nearly 60 years of age, were gotten in safety, Mrs. Hovey being taken from the chamber window and Mr. Hovey rescued from a beam in his barn, where after several hours of exposure he was so numb he could scarcely speak. Ward Brooks and a cousin, A.B. Bullen(?) also rescued from this barn, two cows, a yearling and a horse after cutting a channel a half block long through three inches of ice and swimming them to a place of safety. The animals had been standing with their bodies nearly frozen in the ice. One calf had to be killed in the barn and all the poultry was lost.

The only cow of Mrs. Wm. VanFleet died from the effects of standing in the icy water.

The several cows and horses on the T.J. Dunn farm were saved by piling bundles of cornstalks in the stalls enabling them to stand out of the water. Dunn and W.J. Owen did this job.

Mose Abbey successfully swam two of his three horses out of his barn, one other suffering so that it had to be killed

Albert Smelzer who had just moved here Saturday from Indiana, having purchased the Brown and Vance farms of John McGregor, was taken out of the upper window of the Brown farmhouse Monday morning with his large family of ten who had been spending the night cramped in a little garret about 12 feet square in which there was not even standing room. He says they would all have been frozen if they had stayed there much longer.

A.L. Bellinger, rural carrier No. 2, who had recently moved from his farm in Homer to the brick house on Benson street, lost his 40 fine chickens, some furniture, provisions, etc. The water rose nearly to the top of the first windows. He saved his three horses.

Sunday night after many hours of fatiguing and extremely dangerous work in the dark, the families of Ed Post and Albert Moll were rescued by H.D. Holden and Mr. Post and taken to the Holden home where 20 persons were in refuge Monday and Tuesday. Some of the two families were nearly frozen when reached. Longer delay would have meant death.

Probably the most trying and dangerous experience was that of Wm. Booth, the baggage master, Monday morning. After breaking open four bales of hay. and tearing down a shed with which to make a scaffold for a cow and two calves which were nearly floating in the barn, he worked in a boat cutting a four-foot channel in the ice a distance of 40 rods so that he might swim his horse to a barn of Nelson Dean's. The channel froze over at one end before he had cleared out the other. Mounting the horse he headed it into the channel. Though the barn was reached without serious accident, the animal tired and stopped a few times, the rider then expecting to go down in ten or twelve feet of water. Mr. Booth had his feet and fingers of one hand frozen. Mrs. Booth who had remained in bed up stairs to keep from freezing was then taken to the home of Ward Brooks. Before she had proceeded out of their yard, the ice gave way and she capsized in eight feet of water.

The largest rescue mission was gathered at the home of Arthur James on Water Street near the ice house where 34 persons were housed in the small one story building from Sunday night to Wednesday. In spite of the very crowded condition and the fact that the water was within an inch of the floor, the best of spirits prevailed. The following are the names of the families at the house: Mr. & Mrs. Arthur James and two children, Mr. and Mrs. A.L. Kenyon and seven children, Mrs. Wm. Shaw and two children, Mrs. Thos. Shaw and two children, Mrs. Hattie Boughner and four children, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Shaw Sr. and two daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Burch and child, The Misses H. and C. Hepner and Geo. Holley.

A peculiar and almost amusing condition of affairs prevailed at the residence of Thos. Shaw Sr. which is now the property of J.Q. Matzinger. The rear bedroom of the upstairs was occupied during the flood by a horse a cow and a yearling which apparently made themselves

perfectly at home. The three animals were first taken into the back part of the house, but the water raised to such a height that they were shown the way to the second story. Altho the stairway was narrow and uncommonly steep, the horse made the way to the top with ease. After much coaxing, the cow made the flight but not so the yearling, they had to show him, so he was dragged up.

Wm. Low's loss amounted to nearly forty chickens, the rest of his stock being taken to a place of safety.

Many other families had similar trying and exasperating experiences.

The Sturgeon bridge is said to be turned on its side in the ice so that it is impassable.

Monday and Tuesday only three of the eight rural carriers could operate, and not until Thursday were they all able to make the usual runs.

Had it not been for the intensely cold weather which has prevailed since Sunday, the suffering in the flooded district would have been greatly increased. As early as Monday noon people were crossing the river on the ice. Many could be seen skating in and out of the inundated dwellings. Later on ice was seen flying out of buildings where cleaning was in progress.

The fourth Warders have still to look forward to the regular spring freshet in March.

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BENSON STREET BRIDGE DESTROYED JANUARY 20

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - January 27, 1907. The Benson street bridge was built in 1871 by Geo. F. Keep, then a resident of Midland. It was a two span structure, 303 feet in length, with two driveways in the middle and a side walk on either side, although only one of these walks had been in use the last several years. The bridge was reshingled last spring at an expense of several hundred dollars.

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EARLY PIONEER HAS PASSED AWAY

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - April 5, 1907. Tuesday April 2, after three years sickness, Gilbert Cronkright died of cerebral hemorrhage, aged 71 years, 7 months. He came with his parents to Midland county 69 years ago, having been here perhaps as long as any one now living.

Mmes, Nat Clary, Albert Wells, Wm. Wells, John Dorr, John Mcgraw, Harry Carter and John Feeley are daughters. There are also Edith, Watson, and Thomas; Mrs. Mat Daly being deceased. Mrs. Cronkright survives him.

The funeral was held Thursday, six sons-in-law acting as pall bearers and Rev. Wm. Butler of Milford, husband of a niece conducting the services.

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INTERESTING BOOK - 81 YEARS OLD

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - April 5, 1907. Harvey Ball of Midland has a very interesting old time geography which was published in 1826. On the first page is written "B.W. Ball's, Hartford, Conn., July 8th, 1828." B.W. Ball was Mr. G.F. Ball's brother, Ben, who will be remembered by many in Midland.

This geography contains no maps but purports to have been "accompanied with an atlas." It is a book of 342 pages of common school book size and was printed in Boston eleven years before Michigan became a state of the Union. The territory of Michigan then had ten counties: Brown, Crawford, Lenawee, Macomb, Michillimackinac, Monroe, Oakland, St. Marie, Wayne, and Washington. These were the "part owned by the whites lying principally in the southeast along the banks of Lakes Erie, Huron, and St. Clair, and extending back to the westward about 80 miles."

The population of Detroit in 1820 was 1,422 in which year the white population of the state is stated to have been 8,896, while the Indians numbered about 6,000.

The book says that "steamboats go regularly during the summer from Detroit to Buffalo on the east end of Lake Erie, and occasionally from Detroit to Michillimackinac." The latter was the "grand depot of the Canadian fur trade."

The great city of New York had in 1820, a population of 123,706 which was rapidly increasing, but Chicago was not mentioned, and there was no Cook county. Illinois "settlements" were "in the south near the banks of the great rivers."

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MISS CREED DIES

MIDLAND SUN - July 1, 1909. The five years spent here as principal of the Midland high school won Miss Creed many friends. She became unusually well liked. This however was about 10 years ago. Leaving Midland she was married the following summer to C.A. Farnham, and has lived at Sand Lake, Mich., since then. Word was received here yesterday that Mrs. Farnham had died in a Grand Rapids hospital as a results of a stroke of paralysis which she had last June. Mrs. Farnham had been in poor health for over three years. She leaves besides a husband, two children six and eight years of age.

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AN OLD PIONEER - SAM'L D. GASKILL

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - August 27, 1909 . Samuel D. Gaskill, who will be 83 years old September 30, and Mrs. Gaskill, who was 82 April 23rd last, drove out to the Ingersoll picnic Wednesday, and appeared quite vigorous and good for many years yet.

Mr. Gaskill was Midland county's Judge of probate twelve years, from 1856 to 1868, but Ingersoll has been his home for fifty four years so that he has seen about all the development of the township county.

He says he has voted at every election since he was 21, and he proposes to continue doing so as long as he can be carried to the polling place. He voted for Fremont in 1856, and had voted for Republican presidential electors every fourth year since, so that his man has been chosen every time with the two exceptions when Grover Cleveland was successful.

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BROKEN ARM IN ACCIDENT

MIDLAND SUN - November 5, 1909. Mrs. Wm. Berridge Thrown From Rig & Injured. Thursday evening when Mrs. William Berridge and daughter Bessie were driving home from Midland they turned out to pass a load of hay near A.S. Cody's on Main street and ran into a post and were thrown from the rig. Mrs. Berridge has, as a result, a broken arm, while the daughter is badly bruised.

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OLD CHECKS FOUND
SOME WERE FOR MIDLAND MEN

MIDLAND SUN - June 17, 1910. (Lansing Mich., June 11). Yellow with age, but otherwise in a good state of preservation, eleven checks, for amounts varying from $12 to $50 and totaling $250, sent from the paymaster of the United States army, Sept. 2, 1862, to members of the Tenth Michigan Cavalry, then in action before Memphis, Tenn., were found this morning in a tin can on a top shelf in the vault of the state treasury. Their story, as found in several letters with them is an interesting one.

They were part of a consignment of pay checks sent out by J.A. Lowry, then U.S.A. paymaster, to the Tenth Cavalry. On their arrival at Memphis the eleven men whose names they bear were not to be found. It is not known whether they were dead or sick, but at any rate, were missing, and for three years the checks lay in the possession of the Adams Express Co. which had delivered the consignment. Oct. 1, 1865, the express company returned the unclaimed checks to the state treasury for distribution to the soldiers or their relatives.

They have reposed in the big vault ever since and might have stayed there for years more had not John Haarer, deputy state treasurer, taken the notion of giving the vault a house cleaning. The checks are declared to be still good and if the men whose names they bear, or their relatives can prove the right to them they will be delivered and paid.

The names of the men, the amounts coming to them, their company and the place of enlistment are as follows: George Turner, $40, Co. B, Midland; Allen E. Wisner, $20, Co. B, Genessee county;

Charles Truax, $20, Co. B, Spaulding, Saginaw County; William Newton, $16, Co. B., Saginaw County; Francis J. Bugrow, $20, Co. B., Midland; Herman Keeler, $20, Co. D., Flint; Isaac Hanson, $20, Co. B, Saginaw; Ira N. Niles, $12, Co. D. Gore (Or Cove), Huron county; Thomas Strickland, $16, Co. E, Birchville, St. Clair county; Marshall J. Bartlett, $16, Co. K, Adams, Hillsdale county; John R. Thompson, $50, Co. K. A notation on the margin of the latter check states that it was believed the latter was Lieut. Thompson, son of E.H. Thompson of Flint.

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THE 23RD MICHIGAN - BATTLE OF FRANKLIN

MIDLAND REBUBLICAN. Sept. 28, 1911 - From the Clinton Republican, St. Johns:

General O.L. Spaulding writes The Republican from Washington as follows; "If you can find space in your paper for the enclosed account of the battle of Franklin, I am sure it will be appreciated by the survivors of the old Twenty-Third, two companies of which came from Clinton county. It is a graphic story written from the other side of the battle which broke the back of the rebellion in the west. It saved Nashville and insured the annihilation of Hood's army two weeks later.

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A Confederate account of the charge of Johnson's division at the Battle of Franklin. by Judge J.P. Young: from Memphis Commercial Appeal, November 6th, 1904.

Much has been written on the pages of history and story about the dreadful battle of Franklin, which occurred forty years ago on the 30th of this month, but little of this has dealt with the night charge of Johnson's decision of Mississippi, South Carolina and Alabama troops, one of the most graphic scenes in the bloody and picturesque drama. The full true story of the battle has never been written and the varied features are to be gathered rather from isolated narratives than from any one connected story. The night charge of Johnson's division which left in its trail of a hundred paces more than five hundred dead and mangled men, shot down in the space of twenty minutes is a tragedy of war which should not be overlooked by the historian.

With the determined heroism of those days there is little in modern warfare to compare. The bravest of the brave met, not to fire upon each other at a mile or more range, but with breast to steel and blade and ball to try to the uttermost the endurance of manhood in the scorching fires of death.

This writer will try to picture the grand clash of arms which took place in the dark on the field of Franklin.

To explain the situation when it occurred, it is necessary to say first that at 4 p.m. General Hood had hurried a column of fifteen thousand men on the federal entrenched position at Franklin. These had been

withered and scorched as by the fires of hell, and all driven back, mangled and town, except John C. Browns division of Tennessee and South Carolina troops which had gained the parapet at the Carter house and Held on like tigers until help should come. The help came with Johnson's division, as you shall now see.

At dusk, General Cheatham, whose field headquarters were at Merrill's Hill, received information from the front of the condition of things, and sent word to General Hood that he was in need of immediate aid if the foothold at the Carter house was to be maintained. Hood ordered General S.D. Lee to see General Cheatham in person, and sent one of his divisions to his support.

Riding to Merrill Hill about dark, General Lee found General Cheatham on the crest, anxiously watching the battle. Asking for the directions as to how he wished the supporting line placed, General Cheatham, pointing to the flashing line of fire around the Carter house, told him that the command there, Brown's division, the only one the maintained the foothold gained in the works, was in need of immediate aid. Johnson's Division which had marched in rear of Cheatham's corps during the day, was at once sent under its brave commander having in line an effective total of 2,750 men, General Johnson moved to the left-ward of Merrill's Hill, debouching upon the more level ground, and found it quite dark ere he could form his division for the deadly work. This formation was at length effected, with Sharpe's brigade in the right front, and Brantley's on the left front; Deans' brigade supporting Brantley, and Manigault moving in rear of Sharpe. There was some confusion at first in getting the line arranged, but at length everything was ready and the division moved forward. General Johnson's purpose was to strike the Federal line immediately to the left of the flashing guns on Carter's Hill, and he proved somewhat on the lines by which General Bates had marched earlier in the afternoon. To the east of the Boatwick house he changed direction to the north-eastward, and moved directly forward on the line of Moore's Federal brigade. When passing this line of Bate's troops, reformed in the ravine between the Boatwick house and the trenches he was told by that officer to be careful, as part of his men were in the trenches in front. The division moved forward in silence, the right brigade under General Sharpe directly at the locust thicket, and Brantley's brigade (with too wide an interval in the darkness of one or two hundred yards) on the curtain across the slope at Moore's right. It was a strange, weird movement, this silent march in the darkness of Johnson's splendid

division, on powerful entrenchments, his only guide being the flash and roar of Brown's guns around the Carter hill to his right front. Steadily the line approached the trenches which they were supposed to be occupied by their own comrades. The ditch outside was, in fact, so occupied, but almost entirely by dead and wounded fragments of General Carter's fearful charge. Some of the survivors had crawled out in the approaching darkness and over to the rear, and some still lay at intervals on the outer face of the works, out in the ditch with the dead and dying, but without the power to renew the combat.

It was only to the right, nearer the pike, that the remnants of Carter's right, and Gist's, Gordon's and Strahl's brigades intermingled, kept up the furious combat. General Sharpe's men approached the works first, when the enemy, becoming aware of their presence by hearing the orders of the officers and file closers adjusting the line, poured into the front a volley so deadly and so surely aimed that nearly one-half of Sharpe's men seemed to fall to the earth at once. With a shout of defiance the remainder sprang forward and rushed to the works, now but a short distance in front. The flashing volleys disclosed Brantley's line also, and at once the whole Federal front along the curtain was lighted up along with the fires of death.

Responding with a yell, Brantley's line now on the crest of the slight elevation across the sprint branch in front of Moore's right center, came forward with a rush to the support of Sharpe's left. The struggle was short, sharp and deadly, and the scenes of the afternoon to the right of the Pike were reenacted. Sharpe's and Brantley's men, with loud cheers, but with appalling losses, reached the trenches, and at once commenced a struggle for their possession. Dea's brigade, following Brantley, but in the darkness pressing east also, worked its way through the west side of the locust thicket and came on the entrenchments to Sharpe's left and rear; but Manigault's dauntless men ran to the eastward, were enfiladed from the east of the pike, and, exposed to Moore's and Strickland's fire in front, with that of the battery about Carter's Hill added, were first checked and then driven back. General Manigault was wounded while leading his brave men and Colonel T.P. Shaw, 19th South Carolina, and Colonel W.N. Davis, 24th Alabama, in turn shot down while endeavoring in his place to lead his brigade forward. Meanwhile, at the trenches, the contest was furious. Springing on the embankment, Sharpe's and Brantley's men tore down the colors there at intervals and planted their own, only to have the

act repeated at once by the brave defenders within. Parties and small detachments would get inside, and bayonet contests became frequent. In the deadly struggle for the possession of the trenches, Colonel Moore reports that a number of bayonet wounds were received by his men during the combat. The immediate Federal front attacked was occupied by the 111th Ohio, 107th Illinois, 129th Indiana, part of the 183rd Ohio, and 23rd Michigan regiments, from left to right and no more magnificent defense was ever made by troops of their position than by these gallant men in the darkness of that November evening.

The companies of the 183rd Ohio, on the left of the 23rd Michigan, left their position in the charge, and two companies of the 80th Indiana were sent around from the brigade's right to endeavor to recapture the line and close the gap. Charging over the works in front of the 107th Illinois regiment, Sharpe's men seized the colors of that command. Lieutenant Colonel Francis H. Lowrey led a desperate charge to recover them, and was killed in the struggle, shot through the head, his body falling into the hands of the Confederates.

Then the combat raged along the parapet, the remnant of Sharpe's and Dea's men and part of Brantley's brigade finally establishing themselves in the trenches to the immediate left of Gist and Strahl and holding on grimly until midnight.

The colonel of the 23rd Michigan, O.L. Spaulding, when the firing became lighter on his left, threw over a detachment outside the works, which fired down the line of Brantley's brigade lying in the ditch and along the parapet outside, causing great slaughter among the Confederates. "The blood actually ran in the ditch," stated Private Rhea H. Vance of the 29th Mississippi, "and in places saturated our clothing where we were lying down."

The Federals at length succeeded in restoring their lines for the greater part of Brantley's front, though some of his men remained in the ditch all night; but part of Sharpe's and Dea's front could not be driven off the parapet, and continued to hold on there and maintain a fire over the parapet until the enemy withdrew.

After ten O'clock the fire slackened moderately along that part of the line held by Johnson's and Brown's men, and by midnight amounted only to a light picket firing, the combatants on both sides ceasing from sheer exhaustion. Of the dreadful slaughter incurred by his devoted brigade, in the weird charge in the darkness upon the Federal entrenchments, General Sharpe wrote some years ago that, when they had received

the blazing volley in their faces as they quietly approached the trenches, he gave the order to charge; and that one of the regimental commanders near him called out, "There is no one to charge, and all my men are down." And so it was. That part of the line lay prone, nearly every one of the men having been cut down as with the blade of the reaper. But the remnants of the line in other parts, true to their duty with the heroic spirit of Mississippians, stormed the parapet and captured it, after the heroic hand-to-hand struggle above described. It is best that the story of their heroic sacrifices on the part of the Confederate service be gathered together and told by the survivors while they yet live.

I trust that this little narrative will serve such a purpose for the memory of those heroic men who died on the glacis at Franklin in the service of their country, as well as to entertain by the memories recalled, the incident in the minds of the few survivors who have not yet answered the last roll call.

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50 YEARS IN DOUBLE HARNESS

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - September 21, 1911. 50 Years in double harness ... and the harness and team are in fine working order and condition.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Munsell were married 50 years yesterday. They have lived in Midland for 43 years.

Henry H. Munsell and Miss Mary E. Plemon of Wood County, Ohio were married at her home in Middleton Twp., were married 50 years ago. Mr. Munsell enlisted on Aug. 22, 1862 in Co. C, 21st Ohio Infantry and was discharged at Nashville, Tennessee on January 30, 1865.

They have three children: Alfred H., Leonard M., and ____ M. (Mrs. Hays of Mt. Pleasant). The second son died five years ago in Louisiana. Mr. and Mrs. Munsell are esteemed citizens; He was 75 years old last June 12th.

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17 CHILDREN & GRANDCHILDREN

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - December 7, 1911. The Wilford family reunion was a glorious Thanksgiving affair. After 9 years of separation, Mr. and Mrs. William Wilford sat down to Thanksgiving dinner with their children, 17 in all.

The table, decorated with carnations and smilax, was loaded with many good things to eat.

It was truly a day of Thanksgiving to them, one which every member of the family can look back upon with many pleasant recollections.

Those present: Mr. & Mrs. R.C. Bishop, (nee Mary Wilford) and son Claude, of Eau Claire; Mr. & Mrs. J.W. Wilford and Daughter Gladys of Lansing; Mr. & Mrs. W.H. Nash (nee Lucy Wilford) and sons Wilford and Merlin, of Traverse City; Mr. & Mrs.Charles Miller (nee Valla Wilford) of St. Joseph; Misses Eliza and Gertrude Wilford of this city; and Mr. Lee Wilford of Lansing. Also Mr. Clarke Gibbs of Bay City.

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BIRTHDAY PARTY EXTRAORDINARY

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - March 7, 1912. Mrs. O.L. Mosier, formerly of Coleman, was 60 yrs. old Tuesday, O.A. Williams 84 yrs. Sunday, Russell Tripp 14 yrs on Tuesday, and the neighbors, 24 in number, assembled Tuesday at Mrs. Carrie Tripp's and had a splendid dinner in honor of the occasion.

Four generations were represented by Mrs. Mosier, her daughter Mrs. Wyman Kelsner, grand-daughter Mrs. Lewis Green and great-granddaughter Miss Edna Green.

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GREATEST FLOOD EVER KNOWN IN THE HISTORY OF MIDLAND

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - May 23, 1912. The greatest flood ever known in the history of Midland inundates thousands of acres, destroying buildings and personal property. A horse, cow, sheep and other live live stock were carried with the flood. It exceeds by two feet the record-breaking flood of 36 years ago in May, 1876.

Unprecedented rains, continuing nearly 72 hours almost without stop has brought on this city and community an almost unheard-of-occurrence. The First time in the city's history, so far as there is any record, that rains alone with no snow and ice stored around the headwaters, has brought this city to a flood tide.

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DEATH OF RALPH R. PRICE

MIDLAND SUN - August 29, 1912. Ralph Rumrill, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Price of the second ward, passed away last Thursday at the home of his parents after an illness of about a year.

Ralph R. Price was born July 18, 1889, at the home where he died and attended the public schools of this city until fourteen years of age. He then entered the employ of the Electric light company where he remained until his seventeenth birthday, when he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He served on the flagship Connecticut under Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans and accompanied the fleet of sixteen battleships on their cruise from New York around Cape Horn to San Francisco. He sustained an injury to his hip and in 1908, was given a medical discharge from the service. Since returning to Midland, he had been engaged in automobile repair work, until his health compelled him to discontinue all work.

Besides his parents, he is survived by one sister, Bessie.

The funeral was held from the home on Larkin street Sunday afternoon, Rev. J.N. Zydeman officiating.

The pall bearers were Dr. R.J. St. Louis, Dexter Fales, Will Baker, Leo Nehil, Gair Atkinson and Seligman Lewinstein and the city band escorted the body to the Midland cemetery, where interment was made.

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OBITUARY

Ralph Price, who has been suffering with tuberculosis for nearly a year, passed quietly away last Thursday morning at 10 o'clock at the family home on Larkin Street.

No one had hopes of his recovery since the verdict of the examining specialist several months ago, who said that Ralph was suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs, stomach and bowels.

Born in the same house and room in which he died, Ralph Rumrill Price spent nearly all his 23 years of life in this city. he was born July 18, 1889. He attended the Midland public schools until he was about 15 years of age, when he worked for the electric light company, in whose employ he remained until he was 17 years of age.

At the age of 17 he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, making the trip around South America in the flagship, Connecticut, under Admiral "Bob' Evans. During the latter part of his service he received an injury to his hip while assisting in coaling ship, and received his discharge at San Francisco after serving a little over two years.

After working in the Buick auto works in Flint, and machine shops at Detroit, he had gained enough experience in the automobile business so that he opened up a garage and repair shop in Midland, where conducted a successful for two years. The last and third year he was unable to do but very little.

Ralph was a young man who was generally liked by everyone who knew him, as was shown by the kindnesses he received all during his illness.

The funeral was held Sunday at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Price, and was very largely attended , not only by his more intimate friends, but by the members of the Lincoln Camp of the National League of Veterans and Sons, and the Midland Concert Band. Rev. Zydeman officiated.

Those from out of town who attended the funeral were: Arthur Vallender and Mrs. and Mrs. Wm. Martin of Bay City.

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LARKIN NEWS

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - December 12, 1912. Mr. and Mrs. James Howe passed their 65th wedding anniversary November 29, 1912.

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SOLDIER AND SAILOR DEAD INTERRED IN MIDLAND CEMETERY

MIDLAND SUN - May 22, 1913. On May 25, 1911, we published a complete roster of the soldier and sailor dead who were interred in the Midland cemetery. The list follows, with the addition of those who have passed away during the past two years up to and including May 21, 1913:

Abram Egbert, served as a private in the War of 1812 and died June 3, 1869, at the age of 76 years.
Ephraim Allen, Co. F. 1st Michi-Cavalry, a Mexican and Civil War veteran.
Loran Odel, Mexican and Civil Wars.
Capt. Harvey Lyon, 10th Michigan infantry during the Civil War and also veteran of the Mexican war.
Henry Fowler.
Edward Putnam.
James W. Phetteplace.
Charles B. Hollingshead, Co. K, 17th Mich. Infantry.
Corp. James Forman, Co. F. 2nd California Cavalry.
William Morrison.
Thomas Gardner, Co. F, 29th Mich. Infantry.
John M. Hall, Co. E, 23rd Mich. Infantry.
Capt. Milton P. Anderson.
David Huyck, Hospital Steward in the 9th Mich. Infantry.
Casper Dahn.
William O. Thayer, Co. B, 141st New York Infantry.
Lieut. B.F. Keating, Co. F, 1st Mich. Infantry.
Serg. William Brandon, Cop. H, 3rd Mich. Cavalry.
Henry Erway.
L.J. Taylor, Co. B, 10th Mich. Infantry.
Alex Hubbard, Co. D, 15th Mich. Infantry.
Ira Turk, Co. I, 16th Mich. Infantry.
Freeman Monroe, Co. I, 1st Mich. Sharpshooters.
Corp. Benjamin F. Pangborn, Co. C, 153rd N.Y. Infantry.
Charles Johnson, Co. G, 22nd Mich. Infantry.
T.B. Bacon, Co. B, 105th Mich. Infantry.
Sylvester Halbert, 2nd Mich. Cavalry.

W.H. Brink, Co. D, 23rd Mich. Infantry.
H.W. Simmons, Co. K, 29th Mich. Infantry.
John A. Swanton, 145th Penn. Vol. Infantry.
James Root, Co. F, 30th Mich. Infantry.
Cyrus F. Coon.
William Turner.
I.D. Loop, Co. A, 1st Mich. Eng. and Mechanics.
Simson Locke, Co. B, 14th Mich. Infantry.
Drussen (?) Shamwaym Co. D, 15th Mich. Infantry.
C.A. Smith, Co. H, 27th Mich. Infantry.
Dennis Deacons, Co. H, 7th Mich. Infantry.
Henry White, Co. F, 5th New York Cavalry.
W.J. Dutcher, Co. A, 29th Ohio Infantry.
Henry B. Cleveland
J.A. Horton, Co. B, 12th Maine Infantry.
C.D. Bates, Co. K, 5th Mich. Infantry.
Ezra Inman, Co. B, 53rd Ohio Infantry.
William Davidson, Co. G, 1st Mich. Eng. and Mechanics.
Edwin Ayres, Co. I, 31st N.Y. Infantry.
Levi Fulmer, Co. H, 97th N.Y. Vol. Infantry.
G.C. Rogers, Co. D, 2nd Maine Infantry.
Hiram Larue, U.S.N.
Stephen W. Hill.
Gustavus Stephenson.
C.A. Harper, Co. I, 103rd Ohio Vol. Infantry.
P.B. Arsnoe, Co. E, 8th Mich. Infantry.
James Babcock, Co. E, 3rd N.Y. Cavalry.
Charles Martindale, Co. D, 10th Mich. Infantry.
Robert McNeil, Co. A, 9th N.Y. Heavy Artillery.
Parley H. Smith.
A.F. Cummings, Co. F, 1st Mich. Light Artillery.
____ Thom.
B.F. Freeland, 13th Mich. L.A.
William Morgan, Co. H, 111th Penn. Infantry.
Truman Aldrich.
Justus Gark, Co. H, 9th Mich. Infantry.
Charles Fournie, Co. G, 1st Mich. Eng. and Mechanics.
A.B. Lovell, Co. H, 6th Maine Infantry.
Joseph Fisher, Co. F, 29th Mich. Infantry.

Serg. Jacob Munshaw, Co. H, 29th Mich Infantry. Was first sexton of Midland cemetery.
Corp. R.J. Allen, Co. H, 27th Mich. Infantry. A former sexton.
A.J. Bates, Co. H, 2nd Wisconsin Cavalry.
Abraham Conkright, Co. B, 10th Mich. Infantry.
Amos Miner, Co. B, 10th Mich. Infantry.
James O. Roberson.
Allen Coons, Co. F, 57th N.Y. Infantry.
James B. Burtless, Co. M, 11th Michigan Cavalry.
Ethan Taft, Co. D, 207th Penn. Infantry.
B.B Carter, Co. C, 1st Mich. L.A.
Horace M. Ellsworth.
Henry Hurd.
Louis L. Eastman.
Joseph Magill.
Alex Shauger
William Baldwin, Co. A, 2nd Mich. Infantry.
Serg. Maj. James V. Lownsbury, Co. F, 12th N.Y. Infantry and Co. H, 15th N.Y. Cavalry.
Henry S. Wood.
William W. Herring.
William Newberry.
Daniel McFarland.
One Civil War veteran who was brought here from Bay County and buried.
E.H. Beardsley, Co. E, 17th N.Y. Infantry.
Peter Letts, Co. E, 123rd Ohio Infantry.
Monroe Hines, C, 42rd Indiana Vol.

Spanish American

Corp. John C. Timmons, Co. H, 35th Mich. Infantry.
Corp. Michael Timmons, Co. H, 35th Mich. Infantry.
Serg. Paul Schwartz, Co. H, 35th Mich. Infantry.
John Miller, Co. H, 35th Mich. Infantry.

George Walton, U.S. Navy.
Ralph Price, U.S.N.

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50 YEARS OF MARRIED LIFE

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - July 10, 1913. Charles Hubbell and Angeline Yerton were wedded at Holly 50 years ago July 2nd.

38 family members were present at their home on Ashman Street, including sons Fay Hubbell of Albion, with his family; daughter Lena (Mrs. Adam) Winkler; daughter Nora (Mrs. James LaMay) and their family. They have 13 grandchildren, of whom 10 were present, and one great-grandchild, son of Harry Teal, who was there. A daughter Anna (Mrs. Fred Morden) of St. Louis could not come. A son, Myron Hubbell, died nine years ago.

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SOUTH GREENDALE NEWS

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - November 6, 1913. Another family party was held at the home of Mrs. T.C. Gibbs Sunday when intimate friends and relatives to the number of 51 gathered to eat the splendid dinner provided to all, after the manner of a surprise party and to say goodbye to Mrs. Gibbs sisters, Mrs. Conrad and Mrs. McDougal, who start for Nebraska and Oregon this week. Four sisters, all widows and all well past their 60th year, namely: Mrs. H.L. Voorhees, Mrs. T.C. Gibbs, Mrs. Conrad and Mrs. McDougal, have spent the greatest part of a very happy month together, and it seems too bad that they must be so widely separated again.

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93 YEARS IN LEE

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - February 19, 1914. David Kleinhans celebrated completion of 93 years with his grandson of 3 years Monday at the home of his son Eugene Kleinhans of Lee Twp. Those present were - Mr. & Mrs. Evert Kleinhans & family of Lee Twp., Mr. & Mrs. Riley Aldrich of Gratiot County, Mrs. H. Herringshaw of Homer, and Helen Crandell of St. Louis, Grandpa Kleinhans was born in Erie, PA and at the age of 12, moved to Ottawa County, OH; in 1893, he moved to Michigan, and the last 22 years, he has been a resident of Lee Twp.

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GOLDEN WEDDING

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - March 25, 1915. It was 50 years ago on March 23, that Mr. Leonard S. Reed and Caroline Peterson were married in Midland. They now reside in Jerome Twp. They had 6 children; 4 sons, Ben, Alex, Eddie, and Leonard Reed. Two daughters passed away many years previously.

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GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - April 15, 1915. Dr. and Mrs. Matthew Gardiner were the recipients of several kind remembrances on Tuesday, April 13, 1915 at their home on the corner of Buttles and Rodd Sts. Several friends called, others sent floral gifts etc., and that quiet tho' eventful day will be happily remembered. It was their golden wedding anniversary - 50 years of married life. The 50 yr. married bride and groom are aged 76 and 78 respectively, and tho' Mr. Gardiner is now very poorly, Mrs. Gardiner enjoys the best of health.

(The May 6, 1915 paper tells us that Mr. Gardiner died on May 2.)

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DEATH OF A MIDLAND PIONEER

MIDLAND SUN. Jan. 1916. One of Midland's Oldest Residents Died January 18, 1916. Mrs. Evelyn Townsend passed away Tuesday, January 18, about 11:00 o'clock, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Sidelinker, of heart trouble and pneumonia.

"Deceased was born May 28, 1833 in New York and was 82 years, 7 months and 21 days of age. She was of kind and pleasing disposition, and was loved by all who knew her.

"Mrs. Townsend was probably one of the oldest residents of Midland City having lived here for 69 years. When a girl, 14 years old, she came to Midland and attended the little log school house across the river, which was attended by the Indians.

"The funeral was held this afternoon from the home of her daughter Mrs. Horace Holden, on Ashman Street, the services being conducted

by Rev. W.W. Des Autels of the Baptist Church and internment made in the Midland Cemetery.

"She is survived by four daughters, Mrs. Hattie M. Pick of South Buchannon, West Virginia, Mrs. I. Sidelinker, Mrs. Albert Moll, and Mrs. Sophronia Holden all of this city, and two sisters, Mrs. Caroline Reed of Sanford, and Mrs. Angeline Cronkright of Northern Michigan. A brother, William Patterson of Caro, who was here, had been called home owing to illness in his family and will be unable to attend the funeral."

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ALMOST EQUALS GREATEST MIDLAND FLOOD OF 1912

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - March 30, 1916. Flood waters at their greatest height Tuesday and Wednesday lack but a few inches of reaching the highest mark ever known here.

The 1912 mark was 2 feet higher than the greatest grevious flood of 1876 - 40 years ago.

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FIRST TO GO OVER - FIRST WOUNDED

Sergt. Howard Stark Wounded While in Service in France With Engineering Corps

MIDLAND - DEC. 27, 1917 - "Already three weeks in the hospital from a shrapnel wound, but expects to be out in another three weeks, as good as ever." That is part of the letter received from Cleveland by Mrs. Julius Stark of this city on Christmas Day giving her the first intimation she had that her son, Sergt. Howard Stark, had been injured. The letter came from a young lady friend of Howard's and who also has a brother in the 16th U.S. Engineers with Howard. "We may be thankful that Howard was not terribly mutilated like the young fellow who was alongside of him" the letter continues, although no other detail of the injury is given, as she supposes that Mrs. Stark knew all about the accident. The 16th U.S. Engineers has been delegated for service with the French troops, and Sergt. Stark who is a member of that corps, was the first Midland County boy to reach France and engage in active duty at the front.

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LIVED 69 YEARS IN THIS COUNTY

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - Feb. 14, 1918. Sixty nine years ago, a lad of 13 years came to "The Forks", the place where the Tittabawassee and Chippewa rivers meet. This lad was Billy Vance. There was no town here then, but William Vance anchored himself here and has remained here all these years and seen the growth of the place, the developement of farms, churches, schools, etc., having himself reached the advances age of 82 years when death called him at 7:70 P.M. Thursday evening Feb. 7, he being at the home of his daughter Mrs. F.H. Cunningham, where he had been cared for during some weeks of illness.

William Vance was born in Rochester, New York, Jan. 22, 1836. When he was ten years old his family came to Saginaw and about three years later William arrived here when there were but two or three white families in the county. One of these families was that of John Wyman, the first white settler, and in 1855, March 21st, William was married to Lucy Wyman, a daughter of John Wyman. She died June 21st, 1905. Their children were: Charles H., John B., Emma L. (Mrs Thomas Beamish of North Bradley), Lillie M. (Mrs. Ben Hammond, deceased), Margaret E. (Mrs. Cunningham). He leaves also 11 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Russell Beamish, a grandchild is "overseas" in the great war.

The funeral was held Saturday afternoon at the Baptist parsonage, conducted by Rev. H.E. Simms, assisted by Rev. Mr. Phillips, the Methodist pastor at Smith Crossing and Crane.

This statement was made at the funeral. "For the last five weeks Mr. Vance has been gradually growing more feeble. He suffered only when moved in bed. On his birthday, the 22nd of January he said, 'I have lived 82 years, a good long life, and I don't want to live any longer.'" His peace was made with God and those at his bedside said, "Surely God's hand is in such a beautiful closing of a busy life. Truly God giveth His beloved sleep." Those left cannot mourn as those that have no hope.

At the same hour the funeral rites of his last sister, Mrs. Robert M. McLain, were held at Saginaw. They being the last two of their generation, neither knowing of the others death.

In a little book found among his possessions, Mr. Vance had written that he came to do chores on the Fitzhugh farm, now owned by Herbert Sias and that without a doubt, John Wyman's was the first white

family to settle here, Feb. 1837, that Charles Cronkright came soon after, the the oldest building in the county was a barn built in 1837 by Rile Cunningham and (still) standing, when he wrote, on the Herb Sias farm. Lumbering had not begun. The first of importance was done by Timothy Jerome and Ripley, whose camp was near the site of Judge Hart's house. Mr Vance and John McLain in '51 or '52 cut the pine on the present site of Midland. John McLain's wife was Ann Wyman, the first white child born in the county.

CARD OF THANKS

We tender our sincere thanks to the many kind friends who sympathized with us and helped us in many ways during the illness and death and burial of our beloved father, William Vance.

Mr. and Mrs. F.H. Cunningham.
John Vance and family.
Thomas Beamish and family.
Charles Vance and sons.

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NORTH BRADLEY PIONEER PASSES AWAY DEC. 10

MIDLAND SUN - Dec. 26, 1918. Mrs. Nancy Carpenter died at the home of her son George Michaels, 500 E. Thomas Street, Bay City, December 10, 1918, aged 73 years and one month. Death was caused by paralysis. Nancy Tripp Carpenter was born in Wordsworth, Ontario, Canada. She was the daughter of Joseph and Charlotte Tripp. She came to Michigan with her parents, one sister and six brothers all of whom have preceded her in death except one brother, Jacob Tripp of Midland. They located in North Bradley being the second white family to locate there on a farm which remained their home until death came. She was married to James K. Michaels in 1870 and George P. was their only child. Mr. Michaels died in 1879. Mrs. Michaels remained a widow until 30 years ago last May when she was united in marriage with Wm. D. Carpenter of North Bradley. Mr. Carpenter died three years ago last October, with paralysis, at North Bradley. Since that time Mrs. Carpenter resided with her brother Jacob of Midland, and her son, George of Bay City. She was a devoted mother. Mrs. Carpenter was a member of the W.R.C., No. 2 of Midland. The funeral was held at the M.E. Church at North Bradley

where she was taken Dec. 12, and laid beside her husband, Wm. D. Carpenter.

Those who attended the funeral from out of town were: George P. Michaels, wife and two daughters; Jacob Tripp, wife and two sons; Benjamin Tripp; Russell Tripp, and wife; Mrs. Alfred Tripp, her sister-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Sanford and daughter, Mrs. Amos Cronk. Rev. Hoard of the Fourth M.E. Church of Bay City conducted the service.

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CHRISTMAS AT THE STAG HOTEL

FINE DINNER RAISES SPIRITS OF MEN THANKS TO MANAGER AND HIS WIFE

Midland Republican - Dec. 26, 1918. For Christmas day it was a quiet, almost gloomy place, The Stag Hotel, as one wandered through the main halfway, into the office and then up the flight of stairs and through the long rows of double decked beds stood silent guard with the individual steel lockers.

The Stag Hotel is for Dow Chemical plant employees, most of whom are now a long way from their families or else have not any home at all. Is a source of much comfort to many such men. Its capacity is 222 men including the annex and more improvements are being added all the time. Only 50 remained here for Christmas.

As the men filed out of the lobby and entered the dining room you could see the change that came over them as they saw the surprise which had been prepared.

The first thing that greeted them as they entered the door was a big Merry Christmas sign which was hung just inside and then there were decorations hung around the wall in fine style.

There were two tables each decorated with a nice little Christmas tree and trimmings. Many colored lights were used and the feeling of gloom promptly left the place, and it was indeed a real Christmas.

And talk about a Christmas dinner! That was sure one, and the menu would make any man sit up and take notice. Here are some of the things that they had: Roast veal and oyster dressing, fricassee chicken, mashed potatoes, bread and butter, cranberry sauce, orange lamange, banana nut salad, red raspberry jelly, cookies and coffee.

Mr. Johnson, manager of the Stag Hotel, and wife, worked until eleven o'clock decorating and preparing for the Christmas dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have been getting nice big Christmas dinners and making others happy in this way in various eating places for the 19 years of their married life. It is now to them just like getting dinner for a family of 50 full grown children.

Though there was no hanging of stockings, each man was delightfully remembered by the manager and his wife and it is sure that the thoughts of this Christmas will be appreciated by the men and not soon forgotten.

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FLU TAKES BOTH PARENTS AT ONCE

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - April 17, 1919. Mr. and Mrs. James Glynn of Homer Township both die Sunday Morning. Sunday morning at 4:30 James Glynn died of Influenza, twenty-five minutes later his wife succumbed to the same disease.

On Monday of last week, Mr. Glynn although not feeling well, sat on the election board in Homer Twp., and on Tuesday tramped all day in search of some cattle that had wandered away. The same day, Mrs. Glynn did a large washing, and Wednesday, the both became seriously ill and grew gradually worse until Sunday when the end came. Five little children are now orphans. Three of them have influenza and are being cared for at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Smith, neighbors, the other two are at the home of Mr. Glynn's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Glynn. They and their two sons Charles and Roy also have influenza. Mrs. Paul Meisner, a daughter is caring for them.

Flora Emery was born thirty-two years ago in Gratiot Co. and when a small child moved to Midland Co. with her parents. She was married to James Glynn in 1906. They moved to Homer Twp. where they made their home.

Besides the children, she leaves her parents Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Emery of Mt. Haley Twp., two brothers Henry and Theodore Emery, four sisters, Mrs. John Swarthout, of this city, Mrs. Lloyd Fletcher of Saginaw, Mrs. Alva Kirby of Owosso, and Edith Buck of Grand Rapids. Mrs. Glynn was a devoted member and earnest worker in the Daniel's Band Church.

James D. Glynn was born in Bay City September 11, 1882. When but three weeks old, he came with his parents to Midland Co. and has lived for the past twenty years in Homer Twp. following the occupation of a farmer. His parents Mr. and Mrs. Charles Glynn, also of Homer Twp., a sister Mrs. Paul Meisner of Bay City, three brothers, Charles and Roy at home and Leslie of Flint survives.

Mr. and Mrs. Glynn were both members of the Gleaners Lodge.

The funeral was held Tuesday at the home. Rev. J.A. Yoemans assisted by Rev. R.E. Simms. The burial took place at Homer Cemetery, both bodies being placed in the same grave.

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REMINISCENCES OF 29 YEARS AGO (1890)

Midland As She Was And Is, With A Few Between Incidents
By Jas. J. Savage

MIDLAND SUN - September 18, 1919. When the writer called the attention of the editor of the Sun, the first of September, that it was the 29th anniversary of the writer taking charge of the paper, we were asked to give a few reminiscences of those past years.

September 1, 1890, we assumed editorial charge of the Sun, then a 9 column folio paper that had small offices in the third story back of the Larkin block. The outfit consisted of two dilapidated job presses, a Washington hand press, and a none too good outfit of other material. With one boy to assist in the office work we made our bow in this editorial capacity, entering upon the job with fear and trembling from the editorial standpoint, but very confident from that of the workshop,

Reared in an atmosphere of democracy, the political policy of the paper was continued along that line notwithstanding the fact that a good uncle, who as a war horse of his community in the Democratic ranks, encouragingly informed us "that a young man was a d--n fool who endeavored to publish a Democratic paper in the state of Michigan." However we stuck to our faith, bobbing back each succeeding election after a knockout blow. And we continued this practice with such consistency that it finally drew encomiums from the above vitriolic relative instead of censure.

But enough of this personal stuff, more than to say, that many of our fears were without foundation, as we were aided in our editorial work with a warmth and spontaneity that was highly encouraging, and a liberal patronage was awarded us from the first.

With the election of Governor Winans, and a Democratic state administration, the Sun, being the only Democratic paper in the county, was awarded the printing of the tax sales, which at that time amounted to over $1200 per year. The publication of this "fat" placed the financial resources of the paper in such shape that needed improvements were made, and a new power newspaper press was installed and the job equipment improved, the office, in the meantime having been moved to the second story of the then Anderson block, now owned by Ira Fales.

In December, 1899, the paper was sold to Charles H. Steiger, whose editorship was terminated after eight years by death and January 1, 1907, we again acquired the paper, continuing publication of same until May 1, 1908, when it was acquired by the Midland Publishing Co., the present owners.

The paper today is considerably different to what it was when we took it over. The Hand press for newspaper has been supplanted by a two-revolution press driven by electric power, hand type setting is a thing of the past, a modern linotype of standard make doing the work of four to five former hand compositors, two of the best job presses made now take the place of an inferior article at the start: As much job stock is now carried for one month's business as was formerly carried for a year.

And this is only a mark of the growth and improvement of the town. In 1890 there was only one piece of concrete sidewalk in the city, that in front of the William Patrick residence on Main street, now owned by Mrs. McDonald. Main street then had a worn out cedar block pavement that was rougher than the worst corduroy road, and which, was supplanted in 1902 by the macadam road which this year is being covered with asphalt.

It was in August 1890, that H.H. Dow first began his experiments in a barn on the Patrick property on Main street where there was an abandoned salt well, and the following year saw the establishment of the Midland Chemical Co., on its present site, for the manufacture of bromine.

At this time the main currency of the community was "white horses" or due bills, issued, upon a few stores, by various manufacturing industries then here, so that the average laboring man saw very little real money in those days. The writer remembers selling a horse about this time, taking weekly payments in due bills. This system resulted in poor picking for the small store without influence or ability to carry these due bills from pay day to pay day.

Mr. Dow established a cash system when he began the erection of the first chemical plant here, paying at that time ten cents above the going wages of $1.00 per day for common labor, and had no trouble getting plenty of help, as the elm works, now a part of the present Chemical plant, was running light. And to this fact was ascribed some of the opposition with which Mr. Dow was met here in the earlier days.

The principal industries of the town at that time were a pail and tub factory near the present site of the American bromine works and a heading mill along the south side of the railroad just east of Benson street conducted by Reardon Byron(?), who also conducted the Star logging mill in the building now owned by the Orr Bean & Grain Co., at the corner of Main and Benson Streets.

Mr. Remington was then running the elm works, where elm hoops were manufactured as well as lumber, and a box factory was also in connection with this plant. Later the elm works were taken over by Charles Brown and a railroad built to Hubbard, about eleven miles northeast of here on Section 12, Larkin Township, where there was sufficient timber to warrant this investment. The old mill across the tracks and at the foot of McDonald street known as the Larkin mill, was then in operation under the management of Brown & Patrick, sawing up the last of the timber in this county and vicinity. In connection with this mill was a salt block, where the present editor of the Sun worked as a boy packing salt in barrels, filling, heading and loading on the cars 100 barrels daily at 1 3/4 cents per barrel, and he was only 15 years of age. (This personal reminiscence caused a kick from the editor, but we objected to the use of a blue pencil, and he finally stood for it).

Another fine little industry that came to Midland unsolicited at this time was the pail and tub factory of Dove & Stanton, located in the present site of the Chemical plant, and confining their product almost entirely to butter tubs made from white ash timber. This was not only a money making industry for the company, but a good place to work. However, scarcity of ash timber and an opportunity to sell their site to good advantage to the growing chemical industry, caused this firm to close up their business.

Later John Nehil, who had been foreman for Reardon Brothers in their pail and tub factory and heading mill for a number of years, established a plant for the manufacture of heading on the present site of the Nehil Lumber yard on Ashman street. By close application and thorough acquaintance with his job Mr. Nehil laid the foundation for his present successful business. As he promptly purchased some $10,000 of government bonds during the war his efforts have been crowned with a degree of financial success from this small start.

At this period, September 1890, there were very few of the present personnel of business men doing business. The firm of Gordon & McCann had just been established in the then only clothing store, where

Gardner's jewelry store is now doing business. H.W. Beckwith was then an employee of Reardon Bros., as had been Messers Gordon and McCann, Wm. O'Brien had charge of the outside collections for this firm, and later August Wenzel of the firm of Wenzel & Stark graduated from this incubator of many present businessmen.

Traveling salesmen, in those earlier days, were scarce, passing Midland by, as the financial standing of too many of the merchants at that time did not warrant the extension of credit desired. How different in the short period of 29 years, when there is not a merchant on our streets whose trade is not eagerly sought, and whose credit is A1.

Of those now doing business who were here at this earlier day, all began at the bottom and have lifted themselves by their own boot straps to their present position of financial and social affluence. Begin at the west end of the business section of Main street and come right down the line. Charles Brown got his start with lumber, to which he had tied; B.H. Carter started a bazaar where E.W. Austin has his present store; Ollie Highgate has wielded the lather brush and razor as regularly as a clock, and has no reason to fear going to the poor house; Will Evans, formerly a painter by trade, found he had to leave his chosen calling on account of poor health. Dr. Gardner started fitting glasses and has a business that warrants a winter's play day in Florida; T.E. McCann, senior member of the first of McCann & Sons, was a graduate from the Reardon stores, and owes his business success to being on the job at all times; D.G. Mode of the firm of Mode & Gordon, as a youth served an apprenticeship in the clothing firm of Gordon & McCann, later purchasing Mr. Gordon's interest in the business, and later selling his interest to Russell and W.D. McCann; S.B. Gordon from grocery clerk to bank president in 29 years shows business acumen; "Happy Jack" Fathey, from foreman at the Chemical plant to sweeting(?) up the public is a more recent addition to our business men who are making a success. Thompson-Winkler Co., composed of Frank Thompson, Herman Winkler and C.G. Olmstead, are all young men who have had no material assistance in getting to their present high places in the business of life of the community; and it only seems a short time ago when "Bill" Hubbard was working for the "bald headed druggist" Will G. Barbour, putting in long hours, but perfecting himself along his chosen calling.

And we see whereby our old contemporary of the Republican, T.W. Crissey, has been able, after long years of close application, to take a lay-off in his declining years, throwing the heavy burden of a country newspaper upon the shoulders of his son R.W. Crissey. Being now out of the newspaper game as far as any investment therein is concerned, we wish to state that beyond question no one business or industry in our midst has contributed so largely to the growth and marked improvements to our city during these past 29 years with so small returns therefore in a financial way as the newspapers. No one, not even your school principals or ministers give so much of themselves, their thought, their very vitality, their time for the public weal as does an editor and his financial returns are, as a rule, small as compared with others.

Our friend Wm. P. O'Brien, has been another graduate from the Reardon incubator who has made good. And he has been about as consistently on the job as any businessman we know, with a splendid assistant in his better half.

Wm. Hardy, in earlier days following the lumber camps, later through his efficiency in this line, took charge of the Loud lumber interests on the AuSable river. Forest fires wiping out these interests, Mr. Hardy returned to Midland, his former home with a family of grown up boys, and with them established the present meat market business.

Johnny Johnson, who came here with the Indians, is the oldest business and mark of the street. The present stand had been occupied by Mr. Johnson constantly to our personal knowledge since our residence here, though the present block has supplanted a frame building destroyed by fire.

As a young boy August Wenzel, of Wenzel & Stark, started in the Reardon incubator in the hardware department. Following the fire which destroyed the block on the present site, and which this new and modern building supplanted, he with his partner went heavily into debt in their present business. They now own the business and the block in which they are now doing business.

H.H. Beckwith of the Reardon-Beckwith Mercantile Co., was here before our time in the dry goods and clothing department of the Reardon stores. "Beck" is another always- on-the-job and while lately he has relaxed somewhat from the business activities to management and supervision, he sure is at home and enjoys waiting on the trade.

And that "Hole-in-the-Wall" Gardiner boy. He has kept you pretty well posted on his advancement, but he has indeed been a business success that is amazing. Starting in a veritable hole in the wall on the site present Kleine store, and owing for nearly every dollar's worth of goods with which he opened business, he has by sheer business sagacity, pluck and determination forged to his present high place in the business world. And he must ascribe, however, a portion of that success to his good wife, who has a business head possessed by few men.

The Kleine store was established by George Kleine, deceased, in the earlier days, growing from a small to its present large business.

And then there is George Walsh, for years driving a dray and teaming, he has got into the automobile game, and if you don't think that Overland car is just about the best ever you have very poor judgement.

The Venner Garage of whom Geo. Venner and Morley Blackhurst are the proprietors, is one of the marked instances of the later growth and success in our city. But a few short years ago Mrs. Venner had a small country store seven miles north in Larkin, while Mr. Blackhurst was teaching school. Seeing the possibilities, they took a big plunge in paying a long price for their present site and erecting the commodious and up to date building now thereon. They are on the job all the time, well equipped for large storage as well as repairs, are prompt, and courteous; why should they not succeed?

E.W. Austin, an employee in a woodworking factory at Traverse City after his marriage to Mrs. Austin, a Midland girl, came to Midland and engaged in the drug business. He was not a pharmacist at the time,but feeling that a successful businessman should acquire knowledge of all branches of his business, studied on the side and passed the required examinations. Mr. Austin is a marked example of what determination and application will do.

Charles Glasgow, a "next" artist, Midland raised. Midland educated both as to letters and craft, has been another example of what possibilities there are for those who will work and save.

Gus Winkler, one of seven brothers reared on a farm just east of town, early started as a clerk in the grocery business. Larger wages in other lines did not detract him from his chosen calling which he had determined to conquer in every detail, with the result that on borrowed capital he started in business, but by strict integrity and the application of

the full knowledge he had attained as a clerk he has made a success that is marked. Gus is conceded by all his competitors to be as good a stock keeper and buyer as there is in the city.

Starting as a youth as porter for Charles Withey, "Bill" Gibson acquired his first business knowledge. He soon withdrew from an environment that was distasteful to him and began clerking in the hardware store of T.J. Kelly, later becoming manager of the store for G.G. Olmsted, who had purchased Mr. Kelly's interests. Later Coleman Thurlow bought Mr. Olmsted's interests. And now this "braw Scotch laddie" is the head of the Gibson Hdwe. Co., is a Johnny-on-the-spot" business man, and is certainly to be congratulated on his business success. And his partner, Coleman Thurlow, while having the ready cash to purchase a half interest in this business, owes this ability entirely to his own efforts, as he got his start on a farm in Ingersoll township, and has himself to thank for his success that made this business career possible.

The People's State Savings Bank is the outcome of the business judgement of W.L. Baker, deceased. When the writer came to Midland, Mr. Baker was a clerk in a drug and Grocery store where the present bank now stands. He later started a grocery store with a very diminutive stock where Heisman is now doing business, in an old wooden building, he and his wife living at the rear of the store. The business grew rapidly from this small beginning and soon larger quarters were necessary, then the elevator at the foot of Fitzhugh street, then this bank, which death has prevented its originator from seeing grow to its present magnitude. Surely the business career and successes made possible by this businessman from surroundings that were not encouraging at the time should at this day and age forever dispel the too often remark that the youth of today does not have the opportunity of those of an earlier day. And of the present president of this institution, A. Reinhart, is another exemplification of the rise from a lowly position in life to a high pinnacle. "Bert" used to sell peanuts and popcorn at the trains when a youth, later working in the Larkin saw mill. Purchasing a half interest in a second-hand store, Bert just struck his stride. His present high business standing has not been acquired without close application and hard work, his success is due entirely to his own efforts.

W.M. Ryan, for many years an engineer at the Chemical plant, found his health impaired by his duties, and started the present bazaar

business. This confinement also affected his health, so that the business has been made the success it has through the added help of Mrs. Ryan. However, Mr. Ryan is filling his position as commissioner of road district No.2 with entire satisfaction to his constituents.

Arthur Beden, of the firm of Brown & Beden, made his entrance into business as a green country lad from his father's farm in Ingersoll. After several years of schooling in business he, with his present partner, an experienced business man from Ohio, entered into the present copartnership, which is one of the going business concerns of today in our midst.

Frank Teal was not satisfied with his position as a first class lathe hand in the pail and tub factory and started in when past youth to learn the barber trade. His efforts have proven the metal of which he was made. A violinist of no mean ability, as well as able to play other musical instruments, he has reared a family that are equally proficient along musical lines. The Teal family could make a big hit in Chatauqua work.

John Anderson of the "smoke shop," a life long resident, of Midland, finds life worth while here, which would not be possible were he not succeeding.

And if you have any question in your mind as to our genial candy and popcorn merchant, Tom Dunn, having been on the job all these years, just you ask any male or female resident from 30 years down where is the best place to buy their candy and "red hot popcorn with plenty of butter on it." Tom is and has been all these years a favorite with the kiddies.

T.W. Atkinson, in many lines of endeavor, has made his last financial killing in the grocery business, from which he has withdrawn in part in favor of his son-in-law, the firm now being Atkinson & Thurber. Tom is more interested just now in a good farm in Mt. Haley township which he is giving personal attention.

And there are our two local undertakers, both Midland boys, by sheer determination and bull-dog tenacity have come to a point in their business careers where financial success has perched upon their banners.

The first automobile in Midland was doctored up by Earl McCartney, who has been in the game ever since, and doing very well, thank you.

A.W. Lewinstein was one of the earliest business men who located in Midland, and that he has remained all these years was not because he could not get away, but had no inclination to do so.

Of all the physicians of 29 years ago, Dr. Towsley was the last, his successes while of an encouraging financial nature, being greater in the high regard with which he is held. Dr. Dougher and Dr. Sjolander are the oldest practicing physicians in Midland, but all who have located here in these past years have made a financial success along with professional development. And the same may also be said of our dental doctors as well as attorneys.

Louis Eesley, tailor, does not exactly come under the pioneer class - 25 years of residence - but near it. First associated with his father in the grist mill, he graduated to his present business.

There are a number of others who are examples of the thrift that was in them and the grasping of opportunities.

Among those employed in the Chemical plant are many who have been with the concern from its infancy, climbing up from lowly positions to ones of responsibility. This is true in all branches of the plant. And especially has this been a developing source for many of our high school graduates, who have advanced along chemical and mechanical lines.

A marked change noted from that of 29 years ago is in the business blocks on Main street. At that time the majority of the buildings were of frame, the only brick blocks being the Oscar house, now the Carter and Fairfield block, which was veneered and later partially destroyed by fire; the two stores occupied by Gardner and Ryan and the Larkin block; the Caldwell block now occupied by Hardy & Sons and the fruit store; old Reardon block, which only occupied space as far as the Monarch theatre; some mills; Price store on the corner of Townsend and Main street; Sherwood house on a portion of the ground now occupied by the Arcade; Beacom and King blocks; Salisbury block now owned by the People's Bank; Janes, Anderson and Abbey blocks; opera house block on the site of the present Reinhart store; and only one 20-foot building where the Lewenstein block now stands; and the present garage building of Earl McCartney, The other business places were one and two story frame buildings. Where the present Baker block now stands with the O'Brien block was the residence and garden of John Larkin.

With this improvement in business blocks, residences, sidewalks and Main street, with the exception of some four miles of gravel and stone

and built by the commissioners of road district No. 2 our Main thoroughfares are as they were, except in some instances cinders have been used in the sand in place of sawdust.

Another marked improvement has been an extension of the water lines and quite complete sewer system.

At that time the high school was a single three story building which was destroyed by fire and replaced by the present complete and well equipped buildings. The first and third and fourth ward schools were then as now. (Note: The new first ward building is not yet in use.)

To get something of an idea of what real estate values were about at that time as compared with the present: The two lots on which Chas. Brown now has his lumber office and yard was offered the writer for $600 with a two-story frame building thereon. Frank Teal purchased his present home for $550; the present home of Ellsworth Brown changed hands for $100; the four lots now owned by E.O. Barstow was a commons and were lying idle for years. They were purchased for $250 and resold to the writer for $450. The four lots and present home owned by William Ellsworth at the corner of Larkin and St. Nicholas could be bought in those days for $350. The six lots with house and barn, recently sold by John Woodworth for some $500 and he retained the buildings, was purchased for $600. The present residence of John LeFevre at the corner of Jerome and Buttles streets was the first personally owned residence of the writer and was purchased for $550. The house and six lots now owned by Dick Richardson just opposite was purchased for $600. The house now occupied by H.D. Holden at the corner of Buttles and Fitzhugh streets was offered in those days for $175. Of course these properties have all been improved and many, if not all are now modern. In those earlier days a purchase was made of two houses and a barn on the Saginaw road and one on Ellsworth street for $175 they being wrecked and utilized for new construction. One house in the first ward, 16x24, with wing the same size with lot 60x120 changed hands for $50. The lots in the vicinity of the Lutheran church were offered by the Carpenter estate for $10 each. Four lots on Ashman street between this church and the school house sold for $40 each. One house on the lower first ward with the two lots Upright and wing, small barn, sold for $200. And instance after instance could be enumerated of this low ebb in the value of city residence property. Possibly the most remarkable was the offer of the Larkin Block to O.C. Somerville by the

owner for $200, and he assume a mortgage of $10,000.

Good unimproved farm lands in that earlier day could be purchased for $5 per acre, and improved were equally reasonable. Drainage in the county at that time was poor and only the higher and lighter land could be farmed. Ingersoll, now one of the garden spots of the county, was marketing its elm and wallowing around in the mud. And this was equally true of the whole county.

The first county drain established at that time was the Inman drain in Lincoln township. This has been cleaned out and enlarged once if not twice since. The county now stands near the top of all the counties in the state for the number of miles of county drains, and this improvement has been a large factor in the farm growth of the county. James W. Jackson was the newly elected drain commissioner at that time and went over the course of the large Joe drain in Ingersoll township, that this year is being cleaned and widened, when he had to crawl through thick brush and down timber. Mr. Jackson was succeeded by W.H. Mills of Hope, Frank Olmsted succeeding Mr. Mills. Arthur Baldwin, H.L. McLean and the present commissioner, B.C. Madison, have also had a large part in this line of improvement.

And the successes in part of these business and professional men has been due in a great part to the vision of one man.

H.H. Dow came in August, 1890, after failure in chemical experiments in other fields, came to Midland, where the salt brine was strongly impregnated with bromine, and with limited capital but an indomitable will, has brought a small beginning to the present large plant that has made our phenomenal growth possible.

This success of 29 years of endeavor has not been attained without discouragements that would have caused the man of less determination and vision to quit cold. Not only did he meet with an unscrupulous competitor in Germany, but some local opposition was encountered, which we are pleased to state has almost entirely disappeared.

Another industry that was indirectly the outcome of the Chemical plant was the Prouty works for the manufacture of barn and parlor door hanger with ball bearings. As soon as the Midland Chemical Co. had been established for the manufacture of bromine, Mr. Dow withdrew from the management of the business to confine his efforts along the line of further chemical research and development, Henry S. Cooper being secured to

manage the then prosperous plant. And it was through Mr. Cooper and his brother that this door hanger plant was secured. When the Midland Chemical Co. was absorbed by the later developed Dow Chemical Co., Mr. Cooper removed to Kenosha, Wis., and the Prouty plant was removed to Albion.

And above reminiscences bring home one thought, and that is that of all the manufacturing plants that Midland today or in the past has enjoyed the benefit of, they have been secured without any concentrated effort on the part of the business firms as a whole. From the earlier lumber and woodworking factories, made possible by the products at our door to the present Chemical plant, local natural resources, with the exception of the Prouty plant, have caused their locating here. Why, even the latest plant, the Aircraft Parts Co., is an outcome of Dow Metal and is owned in part by Dow Chemical capital.

The past three years has seen our business houses doing a larger volume of business than in any preceding ten years in their history. A let down has been noticed. The pleasant business flavor left by this prosperity is hard to dispel. The only way to retain it is by getting additional factories to take up the slack that the Stopping of the war has caused. There seems to be too much of a spirit of let the other fellow do it. Midland is most emphatically on the map. Keep her there.

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MISS BUCKLEY MARRIED

NEGAUNEE IRON NEWS - Dec. 4, 1919. The Marriage of Miss Julia Buckley, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Buckley of this city, to Mr. Harry Michaels of Midland took place on Wednesday morning at Detroit. The bride left Escanaba on Monday and joined Mr. Michaels at Detroit where the marriage took place. The newly married couple will reside at Detroit. The bride is one of the city's most known young women and has a host of friends. The groom recently returned from two years service overseas with the American Army. - Escanaba Journal.

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CITY HOSPITAL MAY MATERIALIZE

Encouraging Outlook for a Local Institution with Twenty-Five Rooms

MIDLAND SUN Feb. 28 1920 - The long talked of hospital is seemingly a local demand as to needs and, and the committee appointed at a recent meeting of the council, consisting of Messrs, Clarence Rice, health officer, and Alderman A.C. White and John Whitman, have been active in furthering this project, and it may be possible to ask for the endorsement of same at the spring election in April.

H.H. Dow has shown a substantial interest in the project by offering to donate a site at the northwest corner of Midland and Fourth avenues with a frontage of 240 feet and depth of 260 feet.

Estimates are being secured by this committee, which has in mind a first unit that will accommodate 25 beds and which can later, if the demand requires, be increased to 75 beds, which would ordinarily care for a population of 15,000.

With the interest being shown by public spirited citizens, fraternal orders and a large number of Dow employees, the outlook is very encouraging. The only fly in the ointment may be the scarcity of material, and that does not at present seem insurmountable.

This project will need the endorsement of the public before it can be made possible, and this endorsement will be by a yea or nay vote. While this will be in its inception and completion a purely city affair, the doors of this institution will be open to all adjacent territory.

More complete details will be furnished as plans are perfected. Yes, like all good things, it will cost something, but nothing as compared to the benefits derived. Who can measure life and health by dollars.? How many instances have come to your attention in the past month where perhaps a life might have been saved had we such an institution in our midst? Think this matter over. There is only one argument, and that is in its favor.

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GREENDALE TOWNSHIP RECORDS BURN

MIDLAND SUN. February 28, 1920 - The residence of James H. Hibbard of Greendale was destroyed by fire at 5 a.m. Tuesday, only a portion of the contents of the home being saved.

The fire is thought to have caught underneath the floor. When Mr. Hibbard awakened smoke was coming through the floor from the basement and as two canary birds were dead it is thought the fire must have been burning for some time before detected.

Mr, Hibbard is also the township clerk. He rushed to the room where these records were kept in a desk, when he opened the door he was confronted with a sheet of flame. The records were also a total loss. Mr. Hibbard's loss is $3000 on house and $1080 on contents, not insured.

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DUCK LAY VISITS MIDLAND

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN Aug. 12, 1920 - Duck Lay, a former resident of Midland but now living in Chicago, was last week greeting old Midland friends, of which he has a host. Duck while conducting a laundry here was at first the jest, but later the friend of the younger male set of that day. Many were the milder pranks played upon this apparently gulible Chinaman, but Duck took these matters philosophically, and his extreme good nature soon won him the respect of his mild persecutors. Duck's earlier acquirement of the English language included some of the cuss words, and their attemped use were a sure sign of bursts of laughter from his hearers. Duck says he has cut out the swear words. Like a child, he in those days knew not their meaning.

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WERE MARRIED 50 YEARS AGO

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - October 21, 1920. Mr. & Mrs. Francis Fountaine believe they are the first and only ones in their township of Mt. Haley to have celebrated a Golden Wedding anniversary, and they really ought ot know because they have lived in that same township now for the past 42 years, going there when their own little clearing was practically the only one in the town and since then watching each and every settler who has made a home in that section of Midland County.

The wedding anniversary was held there Tuesday Oct. 5 ... They were married Oct. 5, 1879 in St. Polycarpe, Canada.

The first part of the wedding celebration was at the Ryan church in the morning at 8 o'clock and adjourned to the home of the 'bride and groom' where 70 guests were served evening supper.

Though the bride has been ill since March, she had recovered sufficiently to sing and gave a solo dance which was easily the feature of the whole evening's entertainment which included dancing, cards and music.

A purse of $100 in gold together with some other fine gold presents was given the bride and groom of 50 years.

Guests from out of town were Mr. & Mrs. John LeFevre of Stony Point, Canada; Mr. & Mrs. David Desierleis of Windsor, Ont.; Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Ledue of Detroit; Mr. Ray Fountaine of Saginaw; Mr. & Mrs. John Sova & son Linwood & Miss Valerie Fountaine of Black River.

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FIRST WHITE CHILD BORN IN COUNTY DEAD, AGED 85

MIDLAND - JAN 4, 1923 - Mrs. Julia Ann McLean Passed Away Wednesday at Bay City

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Mrs. Julia Ann McLean died at the Women's Home in Bay City, Wednesday, Dec. 27, 1922, aged 85 years. According to existing records, the first permanent settlement in Midland county by whites was made in 1836. Early in 1837 Charles Fitzhugh came and built a log cabin near the junction of the Chippewa and Tittabawassee rivers in the heart of the present City of Midland. The cabin was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. John Wyman and here on July 6, 1837 was born Julia Ann Wyman, Midland county's first white child. Here Miss Wyman grew to womanhood and was married to John McLean, and for many years they lived on East Larkin street in the House now occupied by Merle Newkirk. Two children were born: Alice (Now Mrs. M.C. Scrafford of Gladwin), and Miss Cora, who died about 11 years ago. The funeral of Mrs. McLean was held Friday afternoon from the home of the daughter, Mrs. Scrafford, and interment made in Gladwin Cemetery.

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Mrs. WILLIAM COOK RECALLS MUCH EARLY MIDLAND HISTORY

MIDLAND SUN, Nov. 15, 1923 - In the spring of 1860, William Mixer came to Midland County with his wife and two little girls, Hattie aged 10 and Addie not yet five - this was about one year ahead of G. Will Ball's coming. Mr. Mixer had worked in the shipyard at Sackett's harbor and later in St. Clair county. On the trip to Midland he traveled by boat to Saginaw and then drove a team the remaining distance - rather Mrs. Mixer drove the team while he drove the cattle. They went up the Old Eastman Road - a corduroy road over the vast swamp or bog that then extended from Larkin street up to the present 4th ave. - in fact sections of Jerome and Fitzhugh streets were included in this swamp and even Ashman could not be driven on except in winter while the ground was frozen. The wet season of 1863 was the worst and Mr. Mixer brought great slabs and logs from the mill to put on Eastman as far as Snake Creek bridge (ED Note: In 1994 near the present site of G.A. Dow Memorial Library), to make it more passable. Shingle shavings were likewise used as on the old Main street.

The name of this old much-traveled "Eastman" road came from an early settler who bought a piece of land and built a home where H.A. Crane now lives - James Eastman. This original name is doubtless recorded in all early histories of Midland and all records on file at the court house - so why have we allowed it to be changed recently to the meaninless one of Midland Avenue?

The Mixers found two big sand hills to climb - one in front of the present Dr. High and Norman Best residences - the other farther along beyond the Catholic cemetery. The bridge across the Snake Creek must have been built in '60 or '61 and a road went in somewhere near the upper end of the cemetery to the Harvey Lyon place.

Finally the Mixer family reached what was to be their home - a farm with a big log house owned by a man named Wilcox about 1 1/2 miles north of the village. This farm was later known as the Milton Boise farm. As they came to the end of their long hard journey, Mrs. Mixer began singing the hymn "Homeward Bound" - this later became a favorite of Mr. Mixer's. They spent the first night at a neighbor's. Mr. George's across the road on what has since been known as the John Haley farm - barn still stands bearing the figures "1857" cut in the peak at the front.

During the first winter of the Mixer's stay in Midland, Mrs. Mixer taught school in a district somewhere up beyond the Sugnet school, but Mrs. Cook has never been able to locate the section. Of the 10 or 12 pupils who attended this early seat of learning, Mrs. Cook mentions the three McCartneys: Mary, Sim and Belle-Mary being the late Mrs. J.V. Lownsbury.

The next fall ('61) the Mixers met their first disaster. The whole family was down to the Court House (Yes, a part of the present building! The old part was built in 1857 or '58) to a M.E. meeting to hear the new minister, Rev. Mr. Leete preach his first sermon in Midland, he was father of present Bishop Leete. During the meeting, Mrs. George saw smoke coming from the new home, and ran to tell all the way to the Court House to notify the Mixer's - when she arrived, she was so out of breath she could only whisper "Your house is on fire." A few of the men left with Mr. Mixer - soon others began to leave as they heard the news. The minister, remembering he had been warned that Midland was a wild, rough settlement, feared some unpleasant disturbance. But when he learned of the cause of the scattered leave-takings, he dismissed the meeting, and all, including the women went to the fire. Too late however - nothing was saved except the clothes the Mixers had on - and one chair they had taken down to use in good Templar Lodge! All lost - after the summer's hard work to get crops in - potatoes all stored - a barrel of flour just bought in the village the day previous.

After the fire Mr. Mixer built a plain board house - it was a home for his family and here they received all their friends from the village. One incident Mrs. Cook recalls vividly and with much pleasure. She says Mr. G. Will Ball's grandmother lived with her son in the tavern down in the village and as the Mixer girls dropped in occaisionally, Addie (Mrs. Cook) always delighted in visiting the grandmother's room. Here she sat in her easy chair, rocking and knitting, and she loved to visit with the girls. She wished to spend a day with the Mixers, but never went out much, being afraid to ride in any sort of vehicle, one day Mr. Mixer met the girls after school and it was a pleasant day for Addie. She had a little friend who was not strong but occasionally rode to school with her - and this same day she was invited like grandma Ball. With the big wagon drawn up in front of the Hotel - grandma's rocker was put on the back and then grandma herself in it! What a good trip they had. Mrs. Ball talked

of the horses and how big they were, strong enough to carry her - and of Mr. Mixer's capable driving!

In those days many ladies of the village bought butter of Mrs. Mixer at 60 cents a pound - civil war prices. The stores only kept "firkin butter" - so called because it was packed in little wooden tubs (these consequently gave it a vigorous taste!)

All this time Mr. Mixer was teaming bringing goods from Saginaw to supply the camps in the woods and the stores in the little village. One memorable trip in 1862 he brought three kerosene lamps and these were the first of such articles to be in Midland unless possibly the Ball's had some.

The Mixers bought a lot down in the village in the summer of '65 - it still stands and is now owned by Edward Pomranky. Mrs. Cook remembers many incidents of those days when the Mixers came to the village to live. She says the big John Larkin was already built on E. Main street, the site of the present Thompson-Winkler store, - because she and her sister often stayed all night there. She recalls that the Larkin mill was also built before '65 as she was going to school and became frightened when a man got killed in the mill. She remembers the Larkin store with postoffice where the present Larkin block now stands. There were two dreadful years of the cholera mentioned recently, in Mr. Johnson's article. A Dr. Whitehouse was here at that time and had a drug store down where the Orr Bean and Grain office new stands. Mrs. Cook recalls that she sold him muskrat skins and old bottles. Dr. Whithouse lost his wife and four children with cholera.

The Thomas J. Carpenter, mentioned in previous articles as owning a shingle mill with A.W. Thompson, was considered the wealthiest man in the county of that day and he built a house on Main street on the later W.D. Gordon site, at the same time Mr. Mixer built on Larkin street. Mr. Carpenter was the father of Sam Carpenter, a well known Midland contractor - also of Mrs. James Van Kleek.

A man named Halbert lived near the bank of the river and had a small brickyard. He built the first brick house on Larkin street. His daughter is the present Mrs. George Walker.

John Larkin's father also lived down the river and a Mr. Osborn, the pilot of the Belle Seymore.

D.M.R. Wilson lived about where the Johnson property is, and he had a wee little girl who wanted who wanted once to spend the day with the Mixers. Her mother said she might and she was already in the wagon

when her father came along and refused to let her go. His initials were changed to "Darn Mean Rogue" Wilson as a result!

Mrs. Cook remembers the plank roadway of '67 down our Main thoroughfare and that several girls had a baby parade. Mrs. Cook took her little sister, Blanche, and Stella Janes had her little brother, George. As they travelled along the planks, some of the girls swapped babies and the one who had George dropped him. This brought Stella immediately to the rescue, much to the confusion of the baby she was trundling: suffice it to say, each little girl wheeled her own baby for the reminder of that day. Mr. Janes then had a hardware store near the site of the Reardon block and lived over the store.

The Midlanders did not take kindly to those first kerosene lamps and looked rather askance at them. But in the spring of 1873, when the upright of the original Central High School had been completed, a social was held to celebrate the occasion. They had a lamp even though most were afraid of it. At the social's height, the lamp got to sputtering, and as a boy took it out, it exploded at the head of the old stairway in spite of all efforts to prevent. Mr. Tyson Smith was the teacher the first year of our "big school" and boarded at Wright's.

In the spring of '66, Mr. Mixer was teaming over Mt. Pleasant way, and the roads being very rough and bad, he was thrown from his wagon and broke his collar bone. In that condition, he managed to control his team and drive the distance home. He travelled frequently up Isabella way where Indians were plentiful, carrying back maple sugar from their camps.

For several years, Mr. Mixer was constable or deputy sheriff. Driving his own team, he went with the sheriff to convey first prisoners from Midland County to Jackson prison.

The F. & P. M. R. R. was built in 1868 and opened with a free ride to Saginaw. Of the crowd who experienced that ride, Mrs. Cook was one.

Maxen Anderson brought the first Jersey cow to Midland, his brother Milton, owned the second and Mr. Mixer the third. It is well known that these pioneers always kept fine specimens of this breed.

In 1880, Addie Mixer became Mrs. William Cook and a home was started in the summer of '82 a mile and a half north and west of Midland on a road north of the American Bromine plant. Here they still reside.

As they drove back and forth to the village in the spring of that year they were interested in watching the two Rice brothers building homes which still stand at the end of Main street - and the people all wondered why Henry and Edmund wanted a home in such a sand pile! At this day it's an attractive "sand pile", however.

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BOYS NEAR DEATH THROUGH ICE AT SANFORD

MIDLAND SUN. - March. 27, 1924. Two Sanford boys, Charles and Frank, sons of Mr. and Mrs. William Rose, narrowly escaped drowning Sunday afternoon in the Tittabawassee river at Sanford. the boys were on the ice fishing, near the R.R. bridge, when it gave way under them throwing both into deep water near the middle of the stream. They owe their lives to the fact that they were able to cling to their fish poles which fortunately caught across the opening into which they had plunged. Charles was unable to help himself because of cramps and Frank, only 13, had to drag his brother to solid ice after having climbed out himself. Others on the ice at the time were too far away to be of assistance. The boys were fully recovered from their unpleasant experience by Monday.

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OLDEST RESIDENTS OF MIDLAND COUNTY - 1924

MIDLAND

	Age
Benjamin Lee	87
John Reardon	87
Mrs. Malcolm Dunning	86
Lott S. Holmes	86
David McLeese	86
Mrs. M. Gardiner	85
Mrs. Elizabeth Higgins	85
Miss Adelia Offutt	84
William Gilman	83
Mrs. Almira Har	83
Mrs. Henry Eesley	83
Henry Eesley	82
Mrs. Sarah Guilote	82
Mrs. Emma Beden	82
Mrs. Sarah Hicks	82
Mrs. Almina Letts	81
T. W. Crissey	80
John Franklin	80
Walter A. Finney	80
John E. Sayre	80
Mrs. Emma Clason	79
Mrs. Maria Chase	79
Mrs. Lizzie M. Iott	78
G. Will Ball	78
F. E. Butters	78
David L. Sinclair	78
Martin J. Spencer	77
James Hutchins	77
Mrs. Walter A Finney	77
Mrs. Mary Barth	76
T. B. Main	76
Mrs. Esther Cronkright	76
Patrick Duffey	76
John Johnson	76
James Davidson	75
Justus Thorington	75
Charles Overton	75
George O. Rockwell	75
David N. Maxwell	75
George O. Walker	75
Elisha Taylor	74
Mrs. Patrick Duffey	74
Neil McKay Sr.	74
Mrs. Olive Preston	74
Mrs. William Betts	73
Mrs. John Wyman	73
Byron Burch	73
Mrs. David N. Maxwell	72
Mrs. Hattie E. Letts	72
Ira Fales	72
Mrs. E. J. Reynolds	72
Mrs. Sarah Kent	72
Jacob Gray	72
Nelson K. Dean	71
Mrs. Margaret Davidson	71
Mrs. Frank Barton	70
Dougald Currie	70
Mrs. Marlin J. Spencer	70
Mrs. Nelson K. Dean	69
Frank Barton	69
Mrs. E. H. Lyon	69
W. V. Hubbard	68
Mrs. Charles Gunn	68
Samuel Odell	68
James La May	67
Edmund P. Rice	67
Henry W. Rice	67

MIDLAND TWP.

	Age
Henry Stuart	90
James Abbott	84
Mrs. Clarissa Mapes	82
G.K. Winegardner	88
William Gibson, Sr.	81
Mrs. William Gibson, Sr.	81
William Cook	78
George R. Camp	75
Eli Shoup	75
Mrs. Laura A. Love	71
Mrs. William Cook	68
Mrs. George R. Camp	68

INGERSOLL TWP.

	Age
William Jasper	90
William Ludlow	82
John Chamberlain, LaPorte	76
George W. Beckley	75
Mrs. John Chamberlain LaPorte	74
Mrs. Stoel Dean	74
William Major	70
Daniel B. Crampton	76

HOPE TWP.

	Age
Fletcher McNamara	93
Mrs. Mary Havens	88
Mrs. Peter Raymond	84
Mrs. John Shearer	81
Mrs. Martha Maxwell	78
Benjamin McCalla	77
William E. Maxwell	73
Erastus Wright	74
Ervin Hess	70
Charles Bardwell	70
Mrs. Erastus Wright	67
Mrs. Hilah Gray	67

LINCOLN TWP	Age
Mrs. Bertha Seichert, Averill	92
Mrs. Irena Pawling, Averill	79
Mrs. Calvin Hungerford, Averill	79
Joel W. Taylor	79
Lewis Emlaw, Averill	78
Mrs. H. Lanphierd	78
Mrs. Theodora Allswede	84
John Gravelle, Averill	77
Mrs. Maggie Christie, Averill	72
J. W. Jackson, Averill	72
Anderson Locay, Averill	70
Mrs. Lewis Emlaw, Averill	70
Mrs. J. W. Jackson, Averill	67
Mrs. John Gravelle, Averill	67

EDENVILLE TWP.	
Mrs. Hannah Erway	82
A. J. Shepherd	80
Mrs. R. M. Burgess	73

MT. HALEY TWP.	
Odillion H. Miller	84
Mrs. Sam Brooks	75
Alice Fountain	74
Cyrille Valliere	74

JASPER TWP.	
Ryan S. Robinson	79

JEROME TWP.	Age
Mrs. Theodora Allswede	84
William Munroe, Sr.	84
L. S. Reed Sanford	82
Mrs. Jennie Stevens	82
Adolph Snyder	82
Mrs. William Munroe, Sr	81
Rev. Theodore Tuttle	80
Charles Jeffers	80
Mrs. Helen Fransen	78
Mrs. T. F. Tuttle	77
Mrs. Sarah Howe	77
L. G. Miner	77
Mrs. Harriet Gamble	76
Michael Sullivan	73
Stephen Hunt	69

LEE TWP.	
James Whitman	81
F. E. Baker	75
Mrs. Sarah Baker	70

GENEVA TWP.	
Henry Sage, N. Bradley	95
David Berthune	76
Joseph Warner	74

HOMER TWP.	
William Phillips	83
Mrs. William Phillips	79
Mrs. Mary Higgins	77
Elijah Potter	76
David W. Dice	76
James H. Sirrine	74
Fred Riggie	73
Mrs. Joseph Coleman	71
James Russ	75

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MIDLAND'S PIONEER FAMILIES

This is a series of articles which appeared in February through May, 1924 in the Midland Sun newspaper which were of the early pioneers of Midland County and were told by the pioneers themselves. The Sun asked the following questions: Who is the oldest resident of Midland County? Who has lived in Midland the greatest number of years continuously? Who has lived in Midland County the greatest number of years, though their residence may not have been continuous? Who can go back the farthest into the history of Midland County? On the previous page will be found the list of those whose names were collected by the Sun.

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Feb. 17, 1924 - **HENRY MASHUE**. On January 15 Henry Mashue observed his 50th birthday anniversary and this date also marked a half century of continuous residence in Midland county at his home in Lee Township.

Mr. Mashue was born near the old fair grounds on the farm now owned by Herbert Sias. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Baptiste Mashue, came to Midland about 70 years ago and will be remembered by the older settlers. Their first home in this city was on the present site of the First M.E. church. Mr. Mashue remembers much of the early history of Midland as related to him by his parents.

His father and "Bill" Low were employed by the government for a time, and "poled" a scow carrying from two and one-half to three ton of supplies from Saginaw to the Indians at Mt. Pleasant. They followed the water route up the Saginaw, Tittabawassee and Chippewa rivers to Mt. Pleasant, and it took a week to make the trip.

Mr. Mashue moved with his parents to the old Quarter farm, located on the old River road just east of the meridian. This farm is now owned by Stewart Gordon. He remembers the old three story building known as the old Quarter House, located on the trail leading from Midland to Mt. Pleasant. It was often visited by lumbermen and men in the employ of the government. His father was often employed by these men as an interpreter, as he could speak the French and Indian languages as well as he could English. There were only a few houses between Midland and Mt. Pleasant, and all kinds of

game was plentiful. He has heard the wolves howl many times at night and seen large flocks of wild turkeys.

Mr. Mashue's father later moved into the Half-way House at the half-way dam on the Chippewa river. The dam was built with an apron made of hewed timbers eight inches thick with heavy piers on each side and large timbers reaching across from pier to pier. These timbers were about 18 inches square. The 4x4 planks used to dam up the water were called "slashes." It was necessary to watch the dam day and night in order not to let the water run over it and to always have it ready for log drives.

Mr. Mashue states that he has spent many nights at the dam so as to trip the slash when necessary. "Sometimes I would oversleep and find the water running over the dam," said Mr. Mashue. "I would then wade out in the water to the square timber and take a peevie and trip the slash. Looking back to those days, I feel that it was a very dangerous thing for a boy of 12 or 13 to do but we thought nothing of it then." He and his father looked after this dam for several years.

"John Sherwood was the first man I ever saw scaling logs. The first money I ever earned was for work I did for Sam McReary. I was about 15 then and received $1 a day for driving logs on the Chippewa river. I have marked many logs with a marking hammer following Dave Maxwell when he was scaling."

"I note many changes in Midland county since the time I lived in the Old Quarter House when a lad to the present time. I have observed the methods of travel change from the trails lined with men and Indians walking, to the oxcart, wagon, buggy, automobile and an occasional airplane, and the trails have changed to trunk line highways. I have seen all this in the past 50 years in Midland county and often wonder what the young people of today will see within the next 50 years." After a moment's reflection, "Do you think they will be as great?" asked Mr. Mashue.

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February 14, 1924 - **WILLIAM JASPER** a retired farmer residing in Ingersoll township, has witnessed many transformations in the epoch intervening between the developments of Midland county from an almost boundless forest into a rich farming community.

He came to Midland from Saginaw on the old river boat Bell Seymour, landing in Midland on Thanksgiving Day in the late fall of 1867. His wife and three children remained in Saginaw for a time before coming to Midland. Mr. Jasper was born in Germany in 1834.

After arriving in Midland he assisted in operating a river scow between here and Saginaw for some time. He later secured work in Owen's Grocery store where he was employed for several years. There were only a few stores in Midland at the time of his arrival. He recalled Larkin's Grocery, Rhincecoff's Clothing store and Owen's Grocery. He also has the honor of riding on the first train arriving in Midland over the old F. & P.M. tracks.

Mr. Jasper states that Midland then possessed an entirely different appearance from the Midland of today. It was but a little settlement clustered around what is now the business section of the city. There was almost nothing to Midland at that time but a few scattering log houses and the settlement seemed to be full of Indians.

Mr. and Mrs. Jasper made their home for some time across the river in what is now the Fourth ward. A little later they bought a farm of 120 acres on section two in Ingersoll township. They purchased this farm of Mr. Findlater and it has been their home for over half a century.

This farm was located in the heart of an unbroken forest and they set about to clear it up. All around the little log house where they lived were soon great piles of brush and gradually the forest receded from the cabin. They followed a blazed trail to the present river road as this was the only road in that vicinity.

Mr. Jasper recalls that they got up at 3 o'clock on Sunday mornings in order to reach Saginaw in time to attend church services. Mr. and Mrs. Jasper recently passed their sixtieth milestone as man and wife and are among the oldest married couples in Michigan.

They are both hale and hearty for their years and hope to add many more summers before they join the silent ranks of the Old Pioneers whose toils and privations have meant so much to the present generations.

February 21, 1924 - **MRS. MARY HAVENS**. Mrs. Mary Havens, one of this County's pioneers, has been ill at her home in Hope for the past two weeks.

Mrs. Havens came to Midland county and settled in Edenville Township in 1855 and later moved to Hope township. Her maiden name was Mary Jane Ellsworth and she was born in Hartland, Niagara county, New York, in 1836. She was united in marriage to Aaron Havens on March 23, 1854.

Hope township at that time was almost a wilderness and two of her children Sarah and George aged four and about three respectively, wandered away from home and became lost in a swamp where they spent the night. The whole countryside was aroused before the children were discovered the following day.

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Feb. 18, 1924. - In writing the Midland Sun a resident of the county recalls that during December, 1922, two of the oldest residents of this section of Michigan died during that month. **Mrs. Thomas King**, 96, who resided north of Midland on the Eastman road, and **Clarinda Nelson**, a first ward resident, who was almost 100 years old when she died.

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Feb. 14, 1924 - **Mrs. E.J. REYNOLDS**. "I came to Midland a long time ago," said Mrs. E. J. Reynolds, who resides at 312 West Carpenter street, while talking to a representative of the Sun a few days ago. Mrs. Reynolds was born in Duchess county, New York, on February 28, 1852. She moved with her parents, Mrs. & Mrs. Louren(?) Odell, to Oakland county, Michigan when she was just a child. In August 1857, she came with her parents to Midland, then known as "The Forks".

Recalling that early period she said: "The only white people residing at The Forks at that time were Ann Sheldon, the Wyman, Bailey and Patterson families. The Fitzhugh family lived west of the upper bridge. The old court house was built just the year before I was married, and well do I remember the big pine trees standing in front of it. Our house then was on the present site of the Wilson Funeral Home."

She was united in marriage to Benjamin Reynolds on July 3, 1867. Mrs. Reynolds lived for a time on the old Bullock Creek road and later near

the Atwater saw mill, the first saw mill in this vicinity. Just below the mill were the homes of Silas Runnal, Frank Banks, Peter Rice, Steve Benson and Charles Wyman.

Mrs. Reynolds is a sister of Samuel Odell, who lives on W. Ellsworth street.

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Feb. 14, 1924 - **Mrs. JOHN WYMAN**. "When I came to Midland on Sept. 18, 1868, a big reception was given in honor of my coming," said Mrs. John Wyman, 108 W. Ellsworth street, to the Sun a few days ago.

This reception was held at the home of John Wyman, Sr., one of the earliest settlers of Midland. The home was located on the land now owned by Ray Farnham and the old log house was on the bank near the River.

Mrs. Wyman came as a bride having been united in marriage to John Wyman, Jr., on May 10, previous to her arrival here in September. Her husband met her in Saginaw and it was her first visit with her husband's parents. She remained here about eight months and then returned to the home of her parents in Wisconsin. She lived in Wisconsin about one year before coming back to Midland. She and her husband then built a home on the present site of the residence now occupied by Archie Howard. Some of the original timbers are still in this building although it has been remodeled several times.

In 1881 they moved onto a farm in Homer township. Mrs. Wyman lived on this farm until two years ago when she moved to Midland.

She was born in New York on April 27, 1850, and when six weeks old she and her twin brother moved with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Madison(?) Wells to Wisconsin. She recalls that the story of the hardships endured by the family on this trip, as told to her in later years by her father was interesting as to the methods of travel.

It was during the late autumn on her first visit to Midland that Mrs. Wyman and a lady friend decided to go up the Chippewa river in a canoe in search of walnuts. "We paddled up stream and were having lots of fun when in some manner we upset our boat and we girls fell into the river. When I finally got to my feet I saw our boat floating down stream. We did not dare to let the boat get away from us as the folks at home would find out what happened. I ran splashing through the water and captured the boat. We then waded to shore, anchored the boat and spent the rest of the day on the bank

in the sunshine drying our clothes." Mrs. Wyman stated in recalling the incident.

She has always enjoyed fairly good health and dug potatoes out on the farm when she was 70 years old. In speaking of this as she put it, "I did it because I wanted to." She was injured in an accident a few years ago when thrown from a buggy because of a washout just west of the upper bridge. This handicaps her in getting around, but she performs her own housework. She has not been down here to walk on Main street since last August.

Mrs. Wyman has a jovial manner and recalls the days gone by with keen interest and pleasure.

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Feb. 21, 1924 - **Mrs. SARAH KENT**. "I came to Midland county on a railroad engine and on a freight train at that," said Mrs. Sarah Kent to the Sun only a few days ago.

"That sounds pretty bad, doesn't it?" Before giving the newspaper man a chance to answer, she said: "Well, I'll explain how it happened and then you will understand why we have often laughed about it."

"It was in the fall of '66 and the grade for the new Flint and Pere Marquette railroad was completed from Saginaw to Midland, but the rails were laid only to the Bluffs, where we were going. At Saginaw, we, my mother, sister Harriet, my younger brother, William and my self were asked to ride on the engine to the Bluffs as it would be an easier trip for us than riding in the wagon with father. We climbed into the cab of the engine and the trip began. Every little while the train would stop to leave or take on more cars until we thought we would never reach our destination. It took all day to make the trip, but luckily we had our lunch with us. Though all tired out we really enjoyed the ride." Father arrived at the Bluffs long before we did."

Mrs. Kent's first trip to Midland was made that same week as she was a passenger on the first passenger train run over the road from Saginaw to Midland. The train carried some of the officers of the road and a band made up of a few pieces.

Her father William Morrison, settled near the Bluffs and later purchased a farm of 120 acres from Asa Sheldon. They spent the winter of

'66-'67 on the farm and Mrs. Kent attended the Bluffs School.

In speaking of her early school days in Midland county, Mrs. Kent said, "We walked through the woods and waded through snow four feet deep. I went ahead to break the path, followed by my youngest brother, then came my sister with my older brother following. He kept on the lookout for bears, said to be plentiful here at that time. My younger brother was just about as tall as the snow was deep and only occasionally could he see over the wall of snow on either side. We often laughed about it after my brother grew older. A Miss Clark was our teacher.

In those days game was plentiful, her father supplying deer and partridges in abundance. During the fall of '66 the homing pigeons (ED NOTE: Passenger pigeons?) settled over the flats along the river in myriads and some were killed with clubs. She recalled that their nearest neighbors were Eli Hubbard, James Major and Albert Higgins.

One day while they were living near the Bluffs, the word came that three bears had just been seen by some of the neighbors. "I was sweeping at the time and ran out of the house carrying the broom. Thomas Frazier, a farm hand, was plowing in a clearing. He left his team and came, carrying his whip. Pretty soon a shot was heard and the bears passed by, climbing over a log a short distance away. We were so anxious to keep the bears in sight that Frazier and myself chased them over the 'slaughter-house hill,' our only weapons being a whip and a broom."

Mr. Morrison was a blacksmith, and the following summer he moved with his family to Midland. His shop was located on the river bank, just across the road from the present site of the office buildings of the Dow Chemical plant. The family lived in a house nearby. Mrs. Kent recalled that Midland then was a straggling village and that Main street was not much more than a cow path.

Some time later the Presbyterians held meetings in the White Ribbon hall over Harvey Lyon's wagon shop. The hall was so named because it was the meeting place of the temperance women of that time and the white ribbon was used as their emblem. "The Bible class met in this hall, and in looking back I find that I am the only member of that class still living," said Mrs. Kent.

Mrs. Kent like many of the older residents of the city, keenly resents the changing of the name of the Eastman road to Midland Avenue.

Mrs. Kent was born May 1, 1852, in Pittsburgh, Pa., and was united in marriage to Simon Kent on September 12, 1869.

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Feb. 28, 1924 - **Mrs. PETER SKYM**. Another pioneer of Midland county, though not a resident at the present time, is Mrs. Peter Skym, now residing with her daughter, Mrs. Henry Francisco, at Brighton.

Mrs. Skym journeyed from Ohio to Michigan with her husband and settled on a farm in Homer Township in September, 1879. The trip from Cleveland, Ohio, was made by boat to Detroit and from there to Homer Township with a team and wagon. He built a log house, which was dismantled only about two years ago, and cleared the farm of pine stumps and brush. At that time corduroy roads were common and deer was frequently seen in this section of the county. This farm is now owned by his son Clinton Skym.

Mr. and Mrs. Skym lived on the farm until November, 1913, when Mr. Skym died. Mrs. Skym then went to Chicago where she lived for some years. She usually spent the summers with her sons, Frank and Clinton, until 1921, when traveling became too arduous for one of her years. Last September she fell and dislocated her hip and since then has been almost helpless. Despite this handicap she is more cheerful than many who are younger. Mrs. Skym will be remembered by many residents of the county. She is now 83 years old and spent 34 years of her life in Midland county.

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Mar. 13, 1924. -**Mrs. SAM BROOKS**. Mrs. Sam Brooks completed a continuous residence of half a century in Mt. Haley Township last December. She has resided on the same farm all these years.

When she took up her residence on this farm in an almost unbroken forest, her nearest neighbors lived at a distance of three and four miles. In speaking of her early experiences , Mrs. Brooks said: "I have spent many nights alone while my husband worked in lumber camps. There were many wild animals about at that time. When we came here we came from Midland with an ox team. Midland wasn't much of a place when we came here. We

stayed at the Findlatter hotel the first night we landed in Midland, coming here from Milford, Oakland county. I came from Lincolnshire, England, to Delaware City in 1871, and moved from Delaware to Milford in 1872, and from Milford to Midland county in 1873, where I have since resided.

"When we first came here we lived in a little old log shanty, chinked and corked with moss. There were no roads at that time except the old tote roads. The first tea I bought at that time I paid $1.50 a pound for, and butter was 75 cents a pound.

"We didn't get our mail them days, except when we went to town after it, maybe once in two months. There were wolves, bear, deer, foxes and wild cats here at that time. It was nothing to hear the wolves and wild cats, and deer would often come right up to our door.

"I think I am the oldest settler left in Mt. Haley township, and have seen as much hardships as anyone.

"The only way we could cross the river in the old days was on logs. We used to ford the Pine river and then follow the tote road to the Chippewa river - then ford the river again to get into Midland."

Mr. Brooks died two years ago last October.

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Mar. 13, 1924 - **Mr. and Mrs. FRED RIGGIE**. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Riggie, residing on rural route 5 out of Midland have been residents of Homer township for more than 35 years.

They have raised a family and cleared 90 acres of land. When they settled in this county their nearest neighbor lived at a distance of more than two miles. The site of their farm was a wilderness and many of the hardships of the earlier years fell to Mrs. Riggie as Mr. Riggie was a bricklayer and his work often took him far from home. He has worked in every state of the union, but two. He followed his trade until about 10 years ago.

Mr. Riggie was born in Germany and Mrs. Riggie was born in Pennsylvania.

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Mar. 13, 1924 - **Mrs. ESTHER CRONKRIGHT**. Miss Esther Pattie first viewed the great white pine forest out of which the city of Midland was carved when she came here with her mother in the winter of 1862, returning to Saginaw in the spring. At that time our fair city was known as "The Forks" - a name indicating that here the Chippewa and Tittabawassee rivers united. On January 23, 1865, she was united in marriage to Gilbert Cronkright of "The Forks" and came to Midland county to live - homesteading a 40 acre tract of Homer township, 3 1/2 miles from Midland on the Chippewa, one of the main "highways" of that date.

Eleven children were born to this family of early settlers, nine of whom are still living; Mrs. Matthew Cleary of Ione(?), Washington, Mrs. John Dorr, Mrs. John McGraw and Mrs. William Haley of Midland, Mrs. Alfred Mills, Mrs. Harry Carter and Watson Cronkright of Detroit, Mrs. John Seeley of Flint, and Thomas Cronkright of Lapeer. Mrs. William Wells and Mrs. Matthew Daley have passed away. All were born on this "homestead" in Homer.

Mr. Cronkright was born in 1835 and came to this county when 3 years old, his brother Ira is said to have been the first white boy born in Midland county.

Mrs. Cronkright who is very active for a lady of 76 years, had a birthday March 3 - Monday of this week. A birthday supper was served to a large number of relatives in honor of the occasion.

She recalls that the Wymans and Cronkrights came here with Charles Fitzhugh and instituted the first settlement at "The Forks" - Charles Cronkright building a log shanty where the James Pardee residence now stands on West Main street.

The first school Mrs. Cronkright recalls was located near the "Oxbow." Lumbering and hunting held the attention of these early settlers - who made early acquaintance with sand, mud and high water as the seasons progressed. Walking to Saginaw was a pleasure trip, often found necessary, and this aged lady made many such trips. She also recalls that at one time William Patrick operated a tannery opposite the present E.W. Bennett home on West Main street and that many times she sold Mr. Patrick cord wood at $1.00 per cord.

Interested in the pioneer days stories Mrs. Cronkright recently made a personal call on the Sun which was much appreciated by us.

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March 13, 1924. **WILLIAM LUDLOW**. William Ludlow was born in Brockford, New York in 1841. When a young man he went to Canada and in 1852 was united in marriage to Miss Melvina Anderson. They resided in Listowell, Canada, 19 years.

He and his wife came to Midland county and settled in Ingersoll township, where he cleared 40 acres of land. There were no roads and bear and deer were frequently seen at that time. He was employed at Duncan Brothers' lumber camp the first year after his arrival, and later drove an ox team for five years. He also worked for a Mr. Smith loading logs in the cars of the old Cora railroad for shipment to Midland.

Mr. Ludlow now resides on the 40 acre farm which he carved out of the wilderness. It is located two miles north of the Ingersoll township hall. Mrs. Ludlow died in 1910.

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Mar. 13, 1924 - **GEORGE BECKLEY**. George W. Beckley of Ingersoll township came to Midland when "it wasn't much of a place" -- to be more exact in March, 1866. In 1865, on March 16, he took a job on a tug boat at Saginaw for the Tittabawassee Boom company, it was only a few days naturally until he made the acquaintance of the "Belle Seymour," the boat that connected Midland with Saginaw. Later when President Lincoln was assassinated, the Belle Seymour enroute from Saginaw to Midland informed the E.M. Peck, on which Mr. Beckley worked, of the tragedy, the Peck immediately draped a flag in crepe. The Peck never came past the present county farm -- these trips being made with scows in tow and cord wood, pipe stoves and other materials and other materials freighted to Saginaw.

Mr. Beckley's recollection of the Belle Seymour was that she was between 50 and 60 feet long by about 21 feet wide -- that drew probably 5 feet of water and was propelled by twin side wheels. There was a main or work deck and a hurricane deck cabin, wheel house and kitchen. You paid your fare and then the male passengers "worked their passage" as deck hands. Henry Stewart, Midland township, was cook on the Belle Seymour. Stops were made anywhere a gang plank could be thrown out -- Sheldon's ferry, the Bluffs, and her dock at Benson street were regular. The trip from Midland to Saginaw could be made in a few hours, but the return trip often took from 11 P.M. until morning of the following Day.

Mr. Beckley did not remain in Midland when he came in 1866, leaving after a short time and coming back ten years later. Then in three years he moved to Ingersoll, where he still resides. He was 75 years old on Dec. 11, last.

As a carpenter he assisted in the building of the Larkin and Patrick Salt Block, the Herrick block, the Patrick and Crain block, and the Foster(?) and McGill block -- the four industries which grew out of the early lumbering industry here -- produced hundreds of barrels of salt daily. He also worked on the old Star Flour mill, the Jones and Salisbury store buildings.

While working on the Larkin block job it was Mr. Beckley who overheard a conversation that made clear to him that the well driller was to "get more" from outside parties to make a failure of this well, than from Larkin for its success. In fact work came near being stopped when a 60% brine was reached. Larkin however finally insisted and the well went down 200 feet further where a 99 1/2% brine was found. Going down 40 feet more a bitter brine not so satisfactory was found, and to block this flow a pine plug 12 feet long, 3 3/8 inch at top and pointed on the other end was made and driven at the depth of 1317 feet.

In the old days Timothy Jerome had a lumber camp where Judge Ray Hart now lives.

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Mar. 13, 1924 - **Mrs. LANPHIERD**. Mrs. H. Lanphierd came to Midland county and settled on a homestead in Lincoln township in 1868, and has been a resident of this county continuously for the past 55 years. Averill was the terminus of the Flint and Pere Marquette railroad at that time.

The little settlement was then known as "Red Keg". Two hotels, a store, blacksmith shop and a saloon made up the business section of the town. The saloon was conducted by Elliot Moore; the Averill Hotel by Alfred Averill and the Lincoln House by Burt Sites(?). This hotel was located a few rods southeast of the town proper on the banks of the river. Averill was typical of all Michigan lumber towns and the store served as a supply house for the lumbermen. It later became the headquarters for the surrounding camps and was a busy place.

The wagon road ran parallel with the river and three families, George Postal, George Allswede and Jacob Hager lived on the road

between Averill and Sanford. Harrison Averill owned a farm on what was then known as the Averill flats.

George Postal was killed in the fall of '69 by a pile driver while he was working on the river.

Although Mrs. Lanphierd is almost 79 years old, she wrote the Sun a very interesting letter in which she tells of attending quilting and logging bees in those early days and said that the jolly good times were much enjoyed.

She related an experience that she and some relatives had with a lynx one evening while they were returning home from church. They heard a noise in the brush and later by the light of a lantern which Mrs. Lanphierd carried, discovered a lynx on a fallen tree only a few feet from them. It followed through the swamps and woods to their home and prowled around their cabin for some time, later coming up on the porch. Within the next day or two a lynx was killed by a hunter and she has always believed it was the one that followed them through the woods.

She well remembers the mammoth rollway on the banks of the Tittabawassee river just below Averill. It is said that this was the largest rollway in the history of the Michigan lumber woods.

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Mar. 20, 1924. - **Mrs. HELEN FRANSEN**. Mrs. Helen Fransen aged 78 years, has lived in Jerome township, Midland county, about 42 years. She tells of being frequently kept awake at night during the first and second winters after she came here, by the howling of wolves and on one occasion after on of the nocturnal concerts she found the remains of a deer which had been slain by them, in a berry swamp, near her home. Mrs. Fransen also tells an amusing story of seeing a young deer leap the fence into a pasture, close to the house and play with the horses also there, chasing them about for some time, before returning to the forest.

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Mar. 20, 1924 - **CHARLES H. JEFFERS**. Charles H. Jeffers, aged 80 years, came to Midland county in 1871. Residing in Coleman about five years, and in Sanford since 1876. The county at that time was covered with an almost unbroken forest, and deer were plentiful. Mr. Jeffers was a section foreman, and the section men habitually carried a gun on the hand car, being able to keep themselves well supplied with

venison. At one time they captured a full grown deer alive. It had been run by dogs until it was exhausted. Bears were also frequently seen. There were only seven buildings in Sanford in 1876, five dwellings, Wells & Stones's store, and a surveyor's office. There were no highway bridges, but a ferry ran across the Tittabawassee river, near where the Salt river bridge is now. The cemetery had just been laid out, and there were only three graves in it.

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Mar. 20, 1924 - **Mrs. THEODORA ALLSWEDE**. Mrs. Theodora Allswede, aged 84, came to Midland county, in 1859. Living in Jerome township, - then called Town 16 - until 1864, when she and Mr. Allswede moved onto a farm near Averill, and lived there and in the village of Averill, until 1907, when they moved to Sanford. Mrs. Allswede now makes her home with her son, Fred W. Allswede. While living on the farm Mr. Allswede once shot and killed a deer, from the kitchen door of his home.

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Mar. 20, 1924 - **THEODORE F. TUTTLE**. Rev. Theodore F. Tuttle, age 30 years, has lived in Midland county 30 years, was in Edenville township, for four years and since then in Jerome township - is now living in the village of Sanford.

Mrs. T.F. Tuttle age 77, has lived in Midland county for 45 years, 36 years in Jerome township.

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March 27, 1924 - **SAMUEL McREAVY**. Samuel McReavy who was one of Midland's pioneer residents is here from Marquette county visiting his daughter, Mrs. D.G. Mode. Naturally he became interested in the Sun's pioneer articles and has favored us with a very interesting story of business in Midland in 1868 - it being October of that year that Mr. McReavy came here from Washington county, Maine. He is now past 77 years of age.

This might well be called "Midland 56 years ago" at which time Alex Findlatter ran a hotel on the site of the Austin store. William Davidson was hotel clerk - and the bar of this hotel was one of the first saloons Mr. McReavy, then past 22, had ever seen - you see he was from Maine, pioneer state on prohibition.

William Crissey had a hotel where the LaCroix Store stands. John G. Owen's store was "down at the dock" east of Benson street and specialized in feeds and grain. The James Eastman general store was where the Reardon block stands, and Frank Olmstead, uncle of C.G. Olmstead was manager.

The Brown lumber office, long since displaced the building in which Henry Rindskoff sold the pioneers either clothing or drugs. Millinery and ladies goods were to be had from Miss M.A. Mahoney in her own building just west of Taylor's jewelry store.

Edward Beardsley conducted a hardware store, about where the Brown and Beden store is - which recalls an amusing side-light on early business methods. It seems that some 28 lumbermen were in the habit of buying supplies of this hardware and one day - a busy day during which goods had been sold to all or practically all of these camps - it was found that a box of axes had been sold to one without the proper charge but to which one, well that was the question - so this novel scheme was decided upon to solve the problem. Each lumberman was charged with the box of axes - it being assumed that all except one would refuse payment - but, Mr. McReavy was the only one to protest.

Benjamin F. Bradley was postmaster and the post office was near the Beardsley store.

Midland had a newspaper, George Hughes being the editor and owner of "The Independent," The office being in a small building on the present Carter site.

James Allen and William Hinckley conducted the town's early shoe business on the site of the Lowenstein stores; and Edward Medler had a harness shop and later a hotel near the present E.L. Gardiner store.

The Peoples Bank occupies the site of what was then the Wilcox's grocery.

There were three saloons, the most noted of which was Chabaneau's "Checkered Saloon" as it was known.

Leander Hurch, William Patrick and Joseph Meyers had a hemlock tannery on west Main street opposite the Barstow home. later a process of making "hemlock extract" was installed at this plant, but did not prove a successful business venture.

Brent Sias owned the present Ferd McCrary farm on M-24 and Charles Fitzhugh the Herbert Sias farm.

Back in '68 Thomas Sharp occupied the first residence on the right after crossing the Benson bridge - then in order came Sam Sias, George Bartlett, William Plumer, John Lovell, turning the corner Joel Dorr and Andrew J. Bates. There was no residence on the site of the Fred Sias home, but west John Wyman, John Foster and Henry Patterson lived on farms. C.W. Sinclair lived across the road from Joel Dorr. On the left hand side across Benson bridge George F. Keep lived in the first House, then Henry Stewart and Charles Sias - the last named was killed by lightning in 1869 while near the old Quarter House in Homer.

Many still recall the old 4th Ward brick school - this was completed in 1868 and two teachers taught "the young idea how to shoot." Mr. McReavy recalls that he dropped his pocket book through the floor of the "old covered bridge" on Benson street while that bridge was in process of construction. Observing that it floated instead of sinking, Sam pursued it on a log and recovered it near the Hall shingle mill - near the Dow plant.

Referring to the "Quarter House," it was so-called because it was "quarter way" to Mt. Pleasant. There was also a "half way" and "three quarter way" house. In those days John Sias lived where Russell Dent now does and Albert Reinhart's father in the Gus Malcolm residence, on east Main street.

Coming into the office one afternoon Mr. McReavy learned "that one of those New Yorkers" who was working in the woods for his company had been injured and was at Mrs. Charles Sias. Going over at once he found the doctor about to amputate the injured man's leg - knowing nothing of the real extent of the injury, but having reason to doubt the professional skill of this physician - Sam "allowed" that the leg would stay on and proceeded to secure another doctor. In two weeks the New Yorker was walking on the injured member - this man was John Ryan, sheriff of Midland county from 1878 to 1882.

Other prominent citizens of '68 were: Henry Hart, George F. Hemmingway, D.W. Hitchcock and J.W. Cochrane, attorneys-at-law; George F. Ball and sons, G.Will and Cooley - the latter bookkeeper for John Larkin, lumberman. Larkin operated the Larkin lumber mills, getting out his own timbers.

Sam Sias had a lumber mill, also shingle and planing mill just west of the Benson street bridge in the fourth ward.

Sam Sias' logging operations one year included the delivery of 45 million feet to Saginaw and Bay City sawmills. John Sias and James Eastman were the other big lumber men of that date, though many were engaged in the business "on their own." John Maloney was one of the big lumbermen of a later date.

Most of Larkin's timber was up Sturgeon creek - then a logging stream. Snake creek was also a logging stream of the early days. The annual cut of Larkins mill would be from 5 to 7 million feet of lumber. Timbers cut in the Sam Sias mills was used to build docks at Sault Ste. Marie. He later sold his mills to Luther Dickey(?), who installed and operated a bromine plant - the pioneer of Midland's present great chemical industry.

Ingersoll was very well settled in the days of '68 - Sam D. Gaskell of that township was Judge of Probate from 1856 to 1868. The Mills, Beden, Bloggett, Chamberlain and other Ingersoll families were prominent in our early history.

Mr. Averill owned the "Red Keg" hotel at Averill - there was also a Lincoln hotel there. Edenville boasted of three hotels, and their owners were: George Higgins, Thomas Moore and Charles Axford.

The counties of Midland, Gladwin and Roscommon were all included in Midland County in 1868.

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April 3, 1924 - **DAVID W. DICE**. David Dice came to Midland from Romeo, Michigan in 1872. There wasn't much of Midland at that time. He recalls the Reardon store, James Davidson drug store, two hotels, hardware store, and M.E. church. Mr. Bearsley was the undertaker, Charles Brown and Alfred Avery kept livery stable and they owned Midland's first Hearse. Mr. Dice worked for them and drove the hearse.

There was lots of pine in those days and Mr. Dice worked in the woods a good many winters, he drove tote team several winters for George Starks and also for Ed Avery and he says there was just as much snow those days, if not more than there is now and lots colder - he very seldom could ride - had to walk to keep warm.

In 1921 a swarm of bees built a home over the porch between the siding and sheeting of Mr. Dice's house and he thought he would like the fun of robbing them and secure some honey. He no more than reached the bees nest - when he slipped and came down to the ground a lot quicker

than he went up. The bees are still living over the porch and enjoying there own honey.

Mr. Dice has been a resident of Homer 47 years. In 1875 he bought 40 acres of land and had to clear brush before he could build a house. He has cleared his farm and worked it himself all these years. Mr. Dice is 76 years old and is still hale and hearty and doing his own farming.

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April 3. 1924. **MR. AND MRS. WM. MONROE**. Mrs. William Monroe 81 and William Monroe 84 came to Midland county in 1872.

Mr. Monroe remembers that the old "Red Keg" saloon was burned soon after he came to the farm north of Averill. He tells many amusing stories of the early days. He hunted a great deal when he first came to Midland County. Bears, deer and other game being very plentiful. Many bears came to the oak thickets near his home to feed on acorns and at one time he killed three in one tree. Once when Mrs. Monroe went to bring up the cows, two bears appeared and accompanied her for some distance but did not offer to molest her, finally disappearing into the woods again.

Once he and his sons captured three tiny cubs, after killing the mother, one had been hurt and Mrs. Monroe, endeavoring to save its life, wrapped it in flannel and took it into her bed. They kept two of them until they were full grown, and they were as tame as dogs - very lovable pets. Mr. Monroe tells many interesting hunting stories.

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April 3, 1924. **L.G. MINER.** L.G. Miner, aged 77, had lived in Midland county for 54 years, coming here in 1878, when the railroad was built only as far as Averill and provisions were poled up the river on flat boats. No farms were cleared, and the only industry was lumbering. Mr. Miner bought a piece of land near Sanford, and did a little clearing the first year. The following year he built a house on the place, cutting timber from his own land, taking it to North Bradley, to have it sawed, and to Midland, for planing - doing most of the hauling with an ox team. He lived on the same farm until a few years ago, when he moved to the village of Sanford, where he still resides.

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April 10, 1924. **LEONARD REED**. Sixty years ago one of Midland county's pioneer citizens was known from Saginaw to Ludington as a fiddler of no mean ability. And 'tis said that he was ofttimes referred to as "the fiddler of the pines."

But unlike Jep Bisbee, the Paris fiddler, who was recently brought into national fame by Henry Ford and Thomas A. Edison, this fiddler of ye old times is unable to listen in on his own stringed music. He has been deprived of this comfort for the past several years. In fact, he donated his beloved instrument to his son when that young man was married a few years ago at the age of 55. While he knew Jep in the early days he never became very well acquainted with him.

It was a pleasure to this clear minded and keen eyed pioneer to review the past in retrospect as he called to memory the many camp dances for which he played his old fiddle. He recalls playing almost continuously on a boat trip from Detroit to Saginaw, also of playing for a big oldtime woodsmen dance at "16." He started working the bow at 2 o'clock on the afternoon of a certain July 4, and worked continuously until 5 a.m. of July 5. But, the dancers were not satisfied and he continued to play until 2:30 in the afternoon at $1.00 per hour.

He remembers playing the fiddle in company with John Eastman, Lew Eastman and Nick Fosdick. He also played his fiddle at a dance celebrating the wedding of Alex Findlatter, pioneer hotel man. At this dance he played with Bill Fish, who was nicknamed "White Fish."

Playing a fiddle, however, was not this man's only accomplishment. he could beat any woodsman he ever raced in cutting his side of a tree into the heart. he has felled many giants of the pine forest once covering Midland county. He could cut as many cord of wood in a day as the next man and tells of a record cut for Joseph "Dad" King of Freeland, 62 years ago. He received 50 cent a cord and "found."

He recalls cutting three pine logs in Midland county 16 feet long that scaled 1396 feet each. One of the logs he cut on Bullock Creek. The first winter he came to Midland he spent in cutting timber for Timothy Jerome on Bullock Creek. In those days all trees were felled with the ax, the saw not having yet come into common use. He hired out at $26 a month, but his work was so satisfactory that he was paid off at the rate of $40 a month.

This man was a pioneer in the true sense of the term in that he was a trapper and hunter, but always for big game. And, today at the age of almost 82 he will dare any man that he can shoot the head of a partridge at every shot.

He has killed as high as 26 deer in one fall, but the meat was never wasted. He tells of a hand-to-hand encounter with a big buck when the only weapon he had was a knife. He managed after a hard struggle to cut the buck's throat. It's horns among the finest specimens in the county, adorns his home today.

He tells of shooting bear from the front porch of his home just above the forks. He also recalls a near fight with the biggest bear he ever remembers seeing. This was in Montcalm county. He sighted the bear and taking his ax as he cautiously crept closer. As he leaped to strike the bear between the shoulders with the ax, he fell short of his mark. The bear turned and faced him. He glared at the bear and the bear glared at him. "I had often heard it said that a wild animal could be looked out of countenance. I believe it can be done because that bear turned his head ever so slightly and then suddenly he wheeled and ran."

In a close shave with a catamount near Sanford, he bested the animal in a hand-to-hand conflict and when he drew its hind legs up over his back and shoulders, its front feet and head laid on the ground. In this manner he dragged the animal to his house. He recalls that John W. Lean was a strong rival hunter.

His prowess as a trapper was the envy of all. He recalls selling coon and muskrat skins to John Eastman. At one time he sold him ten mink? skins for $100. Eastman's store at the time was located over the "Hole in the Wall Saloon" on the east side of Benson street near the Orr Bean & Grain company's office building.

No doubt the identity of this fiddler, woodsman, hunter, and trapper has been suggested to many of the pioneers. The interesting character of this article is Leonard S. Reed., now residing near Sanford.

Mr. Reed was born in Webster township, Washtenaw county on April 20? 1842 and came to Midland in the fall of 1862. He was united in marriage to Caroline, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Henry Patterson on March 23, 1865. Mrs Reed died about two years ago. Mr. Reed has been a passenger many times on the old river boat Belle Seymour, between

Midland and Saginaw, when James Bean was captain: Dan Osborn, Wheelman, and Joseph Dagle, fireman. Bean succeeded Charley Case as captain.

He remembers when grading for the old F. & P. M. road bed just east of the Benson street crossing that a number of Indian skeletons were unearthed.

He also recalls that it was early in February, that he saw an Indian squaw chopped down a "coon tree," a big elm on the Osborn farm, about three miles up the Tittabawassee, and when the tree fell her dogs killed 11 coons.

Mr. Reed could speak the Chippewa language so well that he found no difficulty conversing with the Indians. He has a fine collection of arrow heads.

He spent one winter in the lumber woods a little south of Curtis, where a long stave mill was operated. The mill town was located a few miles west of Camp 16.

As the forests were cleared away and game became less plentiful he turned his attention to farming has spent 39 years on his farm a few miles from Sanford.

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April 10, 1924. **Mr. and Mrs. W.A. FINNEY**. To have ridden and conversed with General Sheridan at the time he was making his famous ride "from Winchester twenty miles away" of Civil War history is the part played by a Midland citizen in that drama of the birth of a nation.

This Midland citizen was a private in the ranks and had no intention, inclination or desire to accompany "Fighting Phil" on his mad race to rally his men and whip the rebels. But fate willed otherwise.

It all happened because of the pranks of a horse, and Walter A. Finney was the victim.

Colonel Fisk's horse had become frightened and had the officer about tired out when the Colonel called Finney from the ranks to help him pacify the animal. As the officer dismounted Finney grabbed the bridle reins, but the horse lunged and he failed to mount. The animal kept going at a wild pace with Finney hanging on, and he says, it seemed he was dragged almost a mile before he was able to land in the saddle and then it was some time before he fully gained control of the frightened steed.

By that time he was far from the scene of battle and rode on until he came to a turnpike just at the break of day. It was here he met Sheridan and became his companion for a few miles of that famous ride.

Sheridan asked him where he was going and Finney replied that he didn't know, adding that he had so far been forced to go where ever the horse took him. They dashed on for a ways and Finney was about to turn into another road when Sheridan wheeled his horse and asked, "Where are the Rebels?" Finney replied, "They now occupy our position." Sheridan answered, "Just where I want them, and we'll lick hell out of them before night" and dashed on. It was here he recognized the officer as Sheridan, and Finney, fascinated, followed him to the front. "And Sheridan did lick hell out of them Rebs," said Mr. Finney with emphasis.

Finney delivered the horse to his Colonel's aide and joined his company. He had lost his gun and went into the fight without one. His Colonel, noticing this, demanded to know what he was doing there without a gun. "I'll get one soon," answered Finney, and he did, picking up one from a soldier in his company as he fell mortally wounded.

If one digs deep into the history of that momentous event he will learn that the Confederate forces received all Sheridan promised as he drove them out of the Shenandoah valley forever.

Its prominence is due to the romantic and the spectacular of the poet's well known lines, which perhaps are better known to the reader than the details of the events causing the "famous ride. "

This ride is real and indelibly written upon Mr. Finney's memory, and the lines of the poet stirs within him the love he cherished for his favorite general of that war.

Mr. Finney served his country, enduring all the hardships of war, and fought in 22 battles. But, by another prank of fate he missed taking part in the battle of Gettysburg.

At that time he was in the Chestnut Hill hospital in Philadelphia. When the call came to the hospital for all the men able to go, he was one of the number selected. The soldiers were sent to Washington by water, but arrived too late to be sent to the scene of the battle. He was present when General Lee's troops surrendered their arms at Appomattox Court House, Va., on April 12, 1865.

Following the battle of Cedar Creek his company went into winter quarters about 20 miles west of Winchester, but they were soon ordered into winter quarters at Petersburg.

History says: "While Richmond was blazing, Lee's troops in Petersburg were quitting so secretly that they were many miles away when the Federal pickets discovered, at dawn, that the entrenchments before them were entirely abandoned." Mr. Finney was one of the pickets referred to above and was the first to signal from the top of the breastworks to his comrades that the way was clear. He also did picket duty at Fort Hell, a Confederate stronghold near Petersburg.

Mr. Finney was born in Hillsdale county near the little town of Bankers on May 27, 1843. Mrs. Finney was born at Swan Creek in Saginaw county on January 13, 1846. They were united in marriage in Saginaw on January 7, 1863.

On the 7th of last January they quietly celebrated the 61st anniversary of their wedding at their home on Pine street. They have the honor to be among the oldest married couples in the United States.

Mrs. Finney's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Brailey, came from Massachusetts and settled in Saginaw county in 1822. They lived in Swan Creek for a number of years.

Mr. and Mrs. Finney, having no children of their own, adopted and raised five children, but all are now dead. Mrs. Finney is the only one living out of a family of nine children.

Mr. Finney has a brother, Frank in Hillsdale, whom he has not seen since 1871. It is now planned that this brother will visit Mr. Finney next May. He has another brother, Cornelius, whom he has not heard from for over two years.

Mr. Finney came to Saginaw county with his parents in December 1859. He found work in the lumber woods and for a time his work alternated between the lumber woods in winter and the saw mills in summer. He worked for some time in the mill at Carlton.

He enlisted in Brooklyn, N.Y., on February 8, 1864 in Company C, 65th New York, and was discharged on July 25, 1865.

Soon after being discharged he returned to Saginaw and took up farming and worked the Dr. I.N. Smith farm for three years. This farm was located on the north side of the city and later became a part of the fair ground. It is now included in the residence section.

They moved to Midland county in 1891 and located on the Sheldon farm near the county farm. Later they purchased a home near the city water works from Samuel McReavy.

Mr. Finney's first visit to Midland, however, was in 1866 and he was here many times before becoming a citizen of the county. He spent one winter in a logging camp on the Big Cedar and three winters in camps near "16". Later he spent one winter driving a "tote" team between Saginaw and "16", always stopping at the Axford House. When in Midland he stopped at the old American House. he tells of many wild scenes at Camp 16, now Edenville.

Mrs. Finney, quiet and unassuming, though endowed with the determination of her New England ancestors to see right and justice prevail, has faced experiences that would daunt most women.

Backed by this determination she surmounted a mountain of obstacles including officers, White House attendants and clerks during Civil War days and undaunted fought her way into the presence of Abraham Lincoln an secured from him a 30 day furlough for her husband.

Despite Lincoln's promise to her the maze of red tape was so long unwinding that she grew discouraged and was at the depot in Washington in the act of purchasing her ticket for Saginaw, when her husband appeared on the scene with his furlough.

When asked how the Great Emancipator impressed her she quickly replied: "The homeliest man I ever laid my eyes on. When he arose from his chair to talk to me he was so tall, and it seemed his hands reached to his knees. He was kindly, but seemed so sad. He was very kind to me."

Mrs. Finney says she explained to him who she was, why she was there, what she wanted and that she also told him Mr. Finney had cast his first ballot for him. But just why she told him this, she didn't know. She has always thought that it pleased him, however.

Her recollection of Lincoln and the White House were vividly impressed upon her memory and despite the cause of her visit to the nation's capitol during the 'stirring days of the war' she recalls many harrowing experiences of that trip.

In the spring of '64 a message from the war department advised her of Mr. Finney's death at the Findley hospital in Washington. She immediately took the train, the first one she had ever seen, at Saginaw for Washington. Arriving in Baltimore she was delayed several hours and tells of being "fleeced" out of $12.50 for a ticket to Washington. Arriving there

late in the afternoon she states that guards seemed to be stationed everywhere. She was not allowed to go to the hospital until the next morning when a guard accompanied her.

But the whim of fate had again intervened and she found Mr. Finney alive, recovering from typhoid fever. She tells of staying so late at the hospital one evening that she was sent to spend the night with the laundry girls. At 9 o'clock the candles were put out. A little later the girls tacked quilts over the windows and relighted the candles, but instantly a tap was heard on the window and a voice informed them they would be reported the next morning. The girls not wanting Mrs. Finney to become involved, helped her to escape early the following morning.

Although she was searched before being allowed to enter the hospital she tells of smuggling oranges to her husband. They would go out on the lawn back of the hospital and bury the orange peel replacing the sod carefully.

She made friends with the sick and injured in the hospital and one soldier - a mere boy - believed her to be his sister. He gave her a string of beads which she values as a "keepsake."

After exhausting all efforts in securing a furlough which would allow her to bring Mr. Finney to Michigan, she went to Lincoln. The furlough, however, did not permit him to come to Michigan, but allowed him to go to New York City as he had enlisted from that state. Mrs. Finney spent two weeks there with her husband before returning to Michigan.

Mrs Finney tells of crossing the Tittabawassee river on the logs in her stocking feet without even getting her stocking wet. She says that she and the other girls have crossed the river many times on logs to go to dances.

Mr. and Mrs. Finney have been quite feeble this past winter and they spoke kindly of friends who have assisted them while they were shut in during the long months.

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April 17, 1924. **ELIJAH F. STOWITS**. We moved to Midland by ox-team, arriving at our new home - the Eli Bailey farm in Ingersoll - Dec. 9, 1865, and the trip was "some job, I'll tell you", said Elijah F. Stowits of Homer recently to the Sun.

The in reminiscent mood he recalls that he and other junior members of the family attended school at the Sage school - about three miles distant - and that Miss Anna Blodgett (Mrs. Anna Drew) was the Teacher. Lydia Butt (Mrs. Henry Atwell) was also a student in this school. Later they attended the Bluff school in Midland township, crossing the river in boats.

Indians lived across from the Bailey farm in those days, and wrestling with the Indian boys was one of the regularly indulged in recreations when his father "located" the farm, now the Thomas Reeves place in Poseyville, the father of John Argyle locating on adjacent property.

In those days L.P. Bailey, who built the house on the present Roy Walker farm in Midland Township, owned and operated a shingle mill just west of the Bailey bridge on the north bank of the Tittabawassee, and Cunningham & Patent operated a lumber mill in an adjoining mill yard. E.F. recalls packing shingles for the latter company when a mere lad.

Prior to the general use of the river for logging, it was a beautiful, deep, clear stream, says Mr. Stowits, and many times I have seen the Signet, a stern wheeler, and the Seymour, as they passed on their trips up and down the river, sometimes stopping to put ashore flour or something else at the Bailey landing. one day my sister Libbie (Mrs. N.K. Dean) took mother across to the Blodgett's in the boat and on her return trip a big bear swam the river just a few rods away.

Included in Mr. Stowit's boyhood experiences were the rescues of several from drowning. While they still lived on the Eli Bailey farm, E.F. and Sister Libbie, then 10 and 12 years old were in a boat and the sister, in reaching for a choice piece of pine pitch - gum - fell into the river and went under two or three times. E.F. finally caught her by the hair and pulled her into the boat. later he rescued his mother, who fell into the bayou when they were crossing on the logs. A few years later a young sister, Nancy A. fell from a burling log when she ventured onto a wing-jam, and E.F., laying flat across other logs, managed to steady the burling log and his sister scrambled to safety.

This same summer (1879) he and Frank Whitman were in swimming near the Bailey bridge when Frank was seized by cramps and

went down. Diving first to locate him, Mr. Stowits dove again, dragged Whitman free from a snag and brought him ashore.

This same summer he had the exciting experience of standing in the mill yard near the Bailey bridge when, hearing a scream, he looked just in time to see a girl fall through some broken bridge planks into the river. Immediately he called George Stowitz and Walter McKay, who rescued the girl - Lydia Pierce, aged 12 - who was then unconscious.

William (Bill) Harris had a supply store down on the flats north of Benson Street, but believing in Midland's future he in 1876 built the Harris block, now owned by the I.O.O.F. The father of Mr. Stowitz made the first purchase of goods from Harris in his new Store. Nelson K. Dean was one of Harris' clerks.

Mr. Stowitz says the first fair held in Midland County was in the Methodist church - then located where the new Post Office will stand - and that on the following year the fair was held on the Forks between the Tittabawassee and Chippewa rivers. This was about the years of 1865-1866.

The Stowitz family moved to the Homer farm on Dec. 9, 1878, just 13 years after coming to Midland county. "George and I worked the farm," said Mr. Stowitz, "and ox teams were used for logging and later for plowing."

"My mother and sister Nancy were the first passengers to pay a fare to Saginaw over the P.M., which then came only as far as the D. Currie farm. They were going to Fenton to see Grandmother who was ill."

Scows loaded with provisions were pulled upstream by men who walked an elevated runway at the side of the scow, across which cleats were nailed to give them more secure footing.

Tragedy entered the home of the Stowits family on Feb. 21, 1889, when James W., the bookkeeper for Haley and Covert, was killed in a log train wreck - 13 cars breaking loose from one train going up grade and crashing into the following train.

Speaking of the size to which maple trees sometimes grew in this section, Mr. Stowitz recalled cutting one on his Homer farm that was four feet four inches across at the stump, and that this tree made 12 cords of 18 inch wood to the first limb and six cords above. He and his brother George put 1500 cords of 18 inch wood in Midland during the winters of 1879, '80, and '81.

E.F. Stowitz was born in Fenton, Genessee county August 14, 1856.

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April 24, 1924 - **RYON S. ROBINSON**. Ryon S. Robinson is another Midland county pioneer who has been a resident of the county for over half a century.

He was born in Niagara county, New York on Dec. 30, 1844, and served his country as a soldier during the Civil War. Following the close of the war he and his wife moved to Genessee county, Michigan, in 1866, and in March, 1869, they moved to Midland county and settled on what is now section 18 in Porter township then a part of Ingersoll township.

Mr. Robinson assisted in organizing Porter township two years later. When he came to this county Porter township was practically an unbroken forest traversed only by an occasional trail, with plenty of bear, deer, wolves and other wild game.

During the winter of '69 and '70 he worked in the lumber woods for Sam Sias. He helped to build the state road from St. Louis to Midland.

Mr. Robinson is acquainted with many of the pioneers whose names have appeared in this paper. He is now making his home with his daughter, Mrs. Ben Fisher, who resides in Jasper township

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April 24, 1924 - **GEORGE WALKER.** Another Midland pioneer and citizen who has helped develop Midland county into one of beautiful farm homes and an agricultural community is George Walker, residing at 108 Pine street. Mr. Walker has been a resident of this county for considerably over half a century.

Mr. Walker was born in Salem township, Washtenaw county, on November 7, 1848. When a lad he moved with his parents to Sumner township, Gratiot county, where he lived until he was about 20 years old. He came to Midland in 1868 and lived here about three years, when he moved to a farm which he purchased in section 11, Ingersoll township. He lived on this farm for almost 40 years, when he retired and moved to Midland. This was about eight years ago.

Mr. Walker was united in marriage to Miss Frances I. Gaskill on December 24, 1874, who died on April 2, 1921. He was later united in marriage to Mrs. Addie Goold.

Mr. Walker's first wife's father was the first judge of probate of Midland county and held the office from 1856 until 1864.

The feature referring to Leonard S. Reed appearing in this paper last week, recalled the fact to Mr. Walker that he and Mr. Reed had worked together in the early days, operating scows and rafts on the Tittabawassee river.

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May 1, 1924. **Mr. & Mrs. JAMES WHITMAN**. As year follows year into history, the past becomes dim and hazy. The curtain of the years between the past and the present is difficult to remove once it has been drawn. It may, however, at times be turned aside ever so little - sufficiently - to let a ray of light uncover enough of interest to arouse a keener desire to delve deeper into its hidden recesses.

The pioneers of Midland county are thoroughly grounded in the historical associations of the times in which they lived, but age has dulled the memory of many. The date of the first settlement of any region is of vast importance, because upon it is built the history of that section, county, township, village or city. Without this history, its inhabitants grope in a maze of conflicting evidence when one seeks to grasp the story of developments since the early day. Within the pages of present histories of Midland county the mystery of dates stand out in bold relief.

However, within the memory of one still living, the verdant spots on the banks of the Tittabawassee and Chippewa rivers were dotted with picturesque Indian tepees of bark and hides, the forests drooping over the water in primeval grandeur with wild roses forming a background, and the interior of the forests untrodden and unknown.

The Midland region was the home of a remnant of its original population, attracted by superb fishing and an abundance of wild game. The history of the white man in America reveals the fact that the Indian was the original trail builder, as many of our trunk line highways and our railways parallel the "trails" of the red man.

The confluence of the Tittabawassee and the Chippewa attracted the first white man, and the lure of the future held him. His cabin was hewed out of the forest, forming the nucleus of "The Forks" and the future "City of Midland," which is geographically the heart of the southern peninsula. "The Forks" was located on one of these trails and became the

gateway of the Saginaw valley westward - an outpost of civilization.

For over 80 years James Whitman of Lee Township has been a resident of Midland county. He was born on May 31, 1843, in Saginaw county. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Whitman, natives of New Hampshire, moved to this county when he was a babe about ten months old. They were among the first white settlers in the county and located on the east side of section one in Ingersoll township.

At that time "The Forks" boasted of three homes, according to a statement made to Mr. Whitman by his father, as he remembers it. These families were Joseph Townsend, who came from Mt. Morris, Livingston county, New York, in 1842, and settled near "The Forks,", Charles Fitzhugh, and a man by the name of Alma.

Mr. Whitman was united in marriage to Ella McCrary of Lansing on April 7, 1889, and they have lived in their present home for the past 20 years. Mrs. Whitman was born at Bunker Hill, Jackson county on July 1, 1858. Mr. Whitman states that the site of the Townsend home was on the Haywood farm, and the Fitzhugh home on the Herb Sias farm. He is not certain as to the location of the Alma home, but it was one of the three homes composing "The Forks." Mr. Alma had two daughters, Patsy and Tillie and a son, Hank.

History has it, however, that "The first actual white settler who came to stay was John A. Whitman, whose arrival back to the spring of 1836." This same history and another history states that he settled in the county in 1844. According to history again, "Mr. Whitman was the first settler in Ingersoll township and the first permanent settler in Midland county." It also states that his oldest daughter, Jane was the second white child born in Midland county, and the first in Ingersoll township.

It is also according to history that Charles Fitzhugh came to this county two years after the arrival of Mr. Whitman and that a log cabin built by Fitzhugh was occupied by John A. Wyman in 1837, and the fact is recorded that the Wyman cabin was located at the present site of the old fair grounds on the forks.

It is accepted as fact that less than a half dozen white families were living in the county at that time. It has also been accepted as fact that French traders and Indians were numerous, but that no effort was made to settle or improve the land by these traders.

Mr. Whitman states that, as his memory serves him, there were no Indians living on the Ball flats during his boyhood, but that many of them lived in the Indian village known as Black Bird Town, on the south bank of the Te-ta-ba-was-sink river. This village was located in the vicinity of the "bluffs" and on land which later became a part of the Black Bird reservation.

A small "clearing similar to the white man's vegetable garden, was cultivated by the squaws, and Indian corn and potatoes were raised. The wigwams were made of poles, bark, and hides - bear and deer skins being sewed together with thongs of bark.

According to Mr. Whitman, the Indians inhabiting this section at that time were all Chippewas, although history says that the Pottawatomies and Ottawas mingled freely with the Chippewas. In speaking of the conduct of the Indians, Mr. Whitman said, "They were the very best neighbors and were always kind, but work was beneath their dignity. They did the hunting, while their squaws did the work. I never knew them to go on the warpath."

During an epidemic of fever and ague Chief Sha-na-ba-se and a number of Indian braves came to his father's home and cut wood, husked corn and dug the potatoes as an act of kindness, refusing to accept anything but thanks as a reward.

For some time, aside from members of his own family, Indian children were Mr. Whitman's only playmates, and together they hunted, fished, swam the rivers, paddled their bark canoes and played hide-and-seek. He hunted with the bow and arrow and became as proficient in the art of archery as the Indian lads. His older brother, John, spent one summer with the Indians in the territory west of Midland, and when he returned in the fall he looked so much like an Indian that Mr. Whitman failed to recognize him for a time.

In his early boyhood Mr. Whitman recalls a thrilling encounter with a big buck - he was attracted to the corn field by the barking of his dog, and when he arrived found that in some manner a buck deer had hooked one of his antlers through the collar on the dog's neck and was alternately tossing the canine high in the air and trying to tramp him under foot. A shot from a light squirrel rifle passed through the buck's neck and he fell apparently dead - but just as Whitman about reached the animal, the dog got loose, and the boy found himself eye to eye with the enraged buck - "My, he said, "if I'd had on boots I could have hid in one of them."

He battled for some time with the animal - in fact until the corn shocks on a half acre of ground were knocked down - before his uncle George came to his rescue and killed the deer. "I remember that my shirt collar and the wrist bands of my shirt was all the clothing I had on when the fight was finished, and not much hide," said Mr. Whitman.

"The squaws would also hunt deer. They would go out on the rivers in their birch bark canoes and paddle alongside of a deer swimming in the water and one of them would grab the deer's head and the other would grab its tail - called tipping - and cut the gamble cords, making the animal helpless. They were experts in this method of hunting, but the Indian had too much of the sporting instinct to kill deer in this manner.

"The rivers were deep, very deep in some places, and bushes and trees grew right up to the edge of the water, the log drives of later years destroying this natural beauty. I have gathered a half bushel of duck eggs at one time in the willows along the shore.

"I rode down the Tittabawassee river on the first raft of logs ever floated down the river. It was what was called a 'crib' raft and was estimated to contain 100,000 feet of timber, and the logging camp was located near the bluffs.

I have seen at least 100 birch bark canoes on the river at one time in the fall when the Indians would come in with the cranberry harvest.

"Deer were numerous then and I have seen as high as 100 in a drove. They were rather tame and would stand and look at one until they approached close to them.

"Money did not figure to a large extent in business, the basis of exchange being flour, pork, clothing and other necessities for what ever one had to sell. I have seen a 100 pound sturgeon exchanged for a 10 cent plug of tobacco.

"The sturgeon would come up the river in the spring about June 1. I have seen the river full of them. They were a large fish, and when dried and smoked by the fireplace, made excellent food. The last sturgeon I remember seeing was caught at the old dam about 25 years ago.

"A man by the name of Byrland, a Polander, was the first missionary to visit the Indians in this section that I recall. For a time he visited this section twice a year. A Mr. Wesener was the second missionary to arrive in this section. He died a short time later and was

buried near St. Louis, where a little picket fence enclosing his grave, which is marked with a wooden cross, still stands.

"A man by the name of Johnson, a Methodist was the next missionary to arrive, and he built the first church in Midland county. It was erected on the Ball flats in about 1854.

"Winters were more regular in those days as to snowfall, and everyone used snowshoes."

Mr Whitman remembers when Henry C. Ashman was elected as a representative in 1855. Previous to his leaving he spent the night at the Whitman home and the next day Mr. Whitman's father took him as far as St. Charles. He recalls that Ashman went to Lansing dressed as an Indian. Mr. Whitman recalls that Charles Fitzhugh opposed Ashman for representative, but because it was feared if Fitzhugh was elected he would see that the court house was built across the river on what is now the Herb Sias farm, he was defeated. The location of the courthouse was an interesting question at that time. Peeved because of his defeat, Fitzhugh left Midland.

Ashman was a half-breed and Mr. Whitman states that Ashman's father was a Vermont Yankee who married a daughter of Michigan's famous Indian chief, Tecumseh. In reviewing this part of Midland's history, Mr. Whitman drew attention to the fact that while the erroneous idea prevails to some extent that Ashman's wife was a daughter of Tecumseh, the fact is that Ashman's mother was Tesumseh's daughter.

Ashman's father had charge of the old government fort on Mackinaw Island for a number of years. Ashman came from the Island to Saginaw and later to Midland and at the time he was engaged in trading with the Indians for furs and Maple sugar.

Despite his appearance as an Indian, the members of the legislature soon discovered that Ashman possessed a good education and that this with his new England Yankee blood and the strategy of the Indian gave him ability that could not be ignored. His going to Lansing as Indian was jokingly discussed in the Whitman house. Ashman was Midland's first attorney.

The first store in Midland was constructed by Charles Rodd, a halfbreed, on the south bank of the Tittabawassee river opposite the Dow Chemical plant.

The first saw mill in the county was what was known at the Sumner mill on Snake creek.

The first blacksmith shop was located about where the Vasold creamery now stands and was built by Sol Lloyd.

I.P. Bailey was the first white man to conduct a general store in Midland. It faced Main street and it was located close to the present Vasold creamery. Solon Rumrill later opened a store at the corner on the present site of the Farr grocery. This store was known as "The Blue Goose" and the stock carried totaled around $400. Rumrill made the records for Midland county when it was set off from Saginaw and was the second register of deeds of this county. Mrs. Alfred Price, daughter of Mrs. Rumrill, resides on Rodd street.

Mr. Whitman recalls when the first mail arrived in Midland and figures that it was in the spring of 1857. Ryanell Chaffee took the contract of carrying the "Tittabawassee" mail between Midland and Saginaw. His son, John, carried the mail for some time and drove a span of light ponies hitched to a "Democrat" wagon. Solon Rumrill carried the mail later.

He remembers the wild pigeons that once flew over the section by the thousands. They nested in the trees and when a lad he killed the young with a pole after they left their nests.

Mr. Whitman states that there were no elk or moose here in his time although he recalls that elk horns were found in this vicinity when he was a boy.

He worked in the lumber woods for Horace Jerome and recalls the "Tiff" Jerome had a big lumber camp near the present site of Duncan A. Wayne's residence in Midland. Horace S. Jerome was a brother.

The only flour mill in this section of the state was at Flint and it was necessary to go there to have wheat ground into flour. The trip was made with scows on the Tittabawassee , Shiawassee and Flint rivers, and it took considerable time to make a round trip.

He remembers John Larkin before he came to Midland and states that Larkin hired his father to draw a load of goods for him to Midland with an ox team.

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May 8, 1924. **MRS. ANNA CRONKRIGHT**. The old home will always remain the old home, no matter where one may wander over the earth. A warm spot is always found in the heart of one for the place where they spent so much of the time allotted to them on this earth. It doesn't matter whether it is the finest spot in the world or just a place drifting with the ages.

If one can't go back and receive the welcome awaiting from the folks, who are the most loyal in the world, the scenes of the past can be reviewed as one oftimes will.

In thinking of Midland county, Mrs. Anna Cronkright, who now resides on Rural Route 1, St. Johns, has recalled a lot of memories some of them not the most pleasant, but she has taken with her remembrances that will linger pleasantly the rest of her years.

She tells of the past in a keen, interesting manner as follows: "I came to Midland county from Canada with my grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Westbrook, in the spring of 1863. I was only 15 years old, but I well remember the long ride on the train, which we left at St. Johns, and continued our trip to St. Louis by stage. We finally arrived at our destination, the farm known as the Bince Bailey farm, then belonging to his father, Alson Bailey. This place is located in the western part of Jasper township, Midland county. Very little of the land was cleared, and the house was made of logs with a Dutch fireplace chimney.

"While living here I remember that we had to carry a smudge while we picked berries that grew so abundantly, because of the mosquitos, that made life almost unbearable for man and beast. We were also living here when that terrible cold day known as 'Cold New Year's' visited the country, and we had all we could do to keep from freezing in our little log house.

"Shortly after this I went to Midland to work in the Findlatter hotel, and I was there when the owner was married. I worked there two years and then went to keep house for my grandfather, grandmother having died a short time before.

"In the fall of the year 1867 I was married to Ira H. Cronkright, and we went to live on the farm in Jasper township which we owned for many years. Here we experienced the hardships of real pioneers while we cleared our land, planted an orchard and lumbered in the winters and farmed in the summers. Ten children were born to me, and another after we had left this first farm and moved to another farm a short distance

farther west. Four of the children died in infancy and two more after they were grown and married. "Big game was plentiful in those early days and we often had venison, wild turkey and bear meat as well as an abundance of fish on the table.

"Joy and sorrows and many thrilling experiences came to us while we lived here and struggled to make a home for our children. One incident I shall never forget was when my baby lay dead in the house while a pack of wolves were howling their terrible chorus outside."

"Indians visited us too, sometimes, and I was always afraid of them, although I knew they were supposed to be civilized. Once a big red man stopped at the door and asked for a whetstone with which to sharpen his knife. I was alone with my little children, and my first thought was to run, but knowing that I never could get away safely with them. I determined to stay and die with them if necessary. After he had sharpened his knife, though, he returned the whetstone and went on his way, leaving us safe but badly frightened.

"And so we worked and planned, clearing two farms in Midland county. We lived on the second one until my husband died in the winter of 1909, since which time I have lived with my children. But no home ever seems more pleasant then Midland county, where the best part of my life has been spent.

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May 22. 1924. **Mrs. HILAH GRAY**. The following very interesting pioneer article deals with one of the romantic localities of Midland county - Edenville to the present generation - but Town 16 to all oldtimers. We are in- debted to Mrs. Hilah Gray, daughter of the late Sylvester Erway, for this story from Edenville - she is the first white girl born in Edenville township.

I will mention a very few hardships during the first two years David Bowman and Sylvester Erway lived in Edenville, Midland county. Of course there were no roads of any description, just Indian trails, so they had to get their provisions and flour at Saginaw and had it brought up on a scow or canoes as long as they could paddle canoes. Then when the river was froze up in winter they would go down on the ice with oxen and sleighs. During the first two years here, while running the mills - and they had eight or ten men - provisions got very scarce one fall, especially flour - and the river froze up early, but the ice being thin they could not go

with the ox team or canoe to Saginaw. Daniel Bowman, my grandfather, being that sort of a man, realized that something must be done, and he was one of those kind of men that would find a way or make one.

For two or three days he studied, and was so worried that the men noticed that he did not act very jovial. One morning he got up and said "Woman," to his wife, "put me up enough grub to last four days; I am going to Saginaw." So she put up the eatables and he took it across his shoulder in a bag and started out - he made the trip in four days all right, and what do you think he brought back in the bag? Well, it was a mill you could fasten to a wall to grind corn into meal. Say, that mill ran three weeks night and day, and folks came from Hope and all the neighbors in Edenville ground their corn into meal to make Johnny cake. Of course it tasted better than it does now. They lived through it all too.

From April 20, 1854, to April 20 1924, as far back as 70 years, Daniel Bowman and family of four children are of the first settlers of Edenville township, Midland county. Sylvester Erway came to this county from St. Clair county with Mr. Bowman and family to settle in Edenville. Bowman's location is just across the gully south of Edenville school No. 1. Sylvester Erway's location is now owned by James Secord. The farm is about one-half way from Edenville cemetery and the road running east and west, going east on the south side of the road.

Daniel Bowman set to work right away, building a log cabin and a shingle mill. The mill was located on-half mile below what is now Thomas Swanton's farm, on the east side of the Tittabawassee river. Sylvester Erway, then a single man, ran the shingle mill for Mr. Bowman with seven or eight men. They were about six months completing the shingle mill They ran this mill together for about two years, then Daniel Bowman built a water power saw mill about ten rods from Edenville school house No. 1, south in the gully. This mill was run by different people for about 15 years.

Daniel Bowman's oldest girl, Julietta was about 15 years of age when they came to Edenville, and the second girl - her name is now Hannah Erway, mother of C.L. Erway and Mrs. Liona Brown. All of Hannah Erway's sisters are now dead but one, Josephine Hayner, who lives up north. She had lost one brother, Charles Bowman, who died a few years ago. He was a big lumberman, about six feet tall, and weighed about 200 pounds. Remember, Daniel Bowman and Sylvester Erway

came here in April, 1854, and at the end of two years, in 1856, Sylvester Erway (26) and Julietta Bowman (17) were the first couple, married in Midland county. On May 27, 1857, Hilah Erway, the first white female child was born in Edenville. The first male child boen in Hope, Midland county, was James Rooker, on May 29, 1857. He is living today on a farm in Hope.

My parents Sylvester and Julietta Erway have both been called away by death, but they lived 53 years of wedded life together. Sylvester Erway, my father was supervisor of Edenville township more times than any other two men. My parents were married April 20, 1856. The place where they were married was at that time in Jerome township, but now Edenville. - halfway between Edenville and Sanford. They were married by a justice of the peace, whose name was Egbert.

Hannah Erway if she lives until the 22nd of next July, will be 83. Hilah Erway Gray will be 67 on May 20. Both are well and happy.

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May 29, 1924. **ELIJAH W. POTTER**. The people of Midland county are beginning to appreciate more and more the trials, hardships, privations, fears, dreads disappointed hopes and blasted ambitions of the pioneer families of Midland county as these historical features appear from week to week in this paper. These early history stories of the pale-face explorers into the red man's domain in this county have aroused keen interest in all parts of the county.

Elijah W. Potter, who has been a resident of Midland county for over 76 years, has seen it transformed from a wilderness into stretches of beautiful farm land. He has witnessed the growth of Midland from a few straggling log huts to a business and manufacturing center of beautiful homes.

Elijah W. Potter was born in Livingston county, New York, and when he was a babe about four weeks old his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Potter arrived in Midland and moved into a log house which stood just across the road from the present home of Herb Sias, west of the fairground. They later bought a home on the present site of the new cemetery where they lived for several years.

Their next move was to a point on the river opposite the old ferry just above the present site of the upper bridge. Mr. Potter assisted his father operating ferries at two points on the river for over five years.

When the upper bridge was completed the ferry became obsolete.

An old scow was used as a ferry boat and was operated with pulleys and a heavy rope stretched across the river. The ferry was pulled across the river by hand and if a heavy load was being ferried across it required at least two or three men to pull the boat across. A team and loaded wagon was taken across for 50 cents, a team and empty wagon 25 cents and canoes were used to transport passengers.

Mr. Potter remembers John Wyman, Henry Eastman, Charles Rodd, John Larkin and John Whitman and many others of the first pioneers of Midland County.

He was particularly interested in telling of his exploits in hunting big game. He recalls that he killed 12 out of 13 deer captured on one hunting trip and of seeing 12 bears on the Herb Sias farm. He also recalls seeing seven bears at another time on the banks of the Sturgeon. He tells of spearing sturgeon in the river just above the upper bridge. He recalls one sturgeon he and his father speared that weighed 120 pounds and was 16 feet in length. He says that this particular fish put up a wonderful fight and that when it swam under their boat it was upset and they were precipitated into the river. He also told of fishing with the Indians and how they run "blood lines" across the river which had the effect of driving the sturgeon out of the deep holes and into shallow water.

Mr. Potter states that he grew up with the Indians and that they always treated him kindly and that they made good neighbors. He says that in many ways they were far more honorable than some of the white settlers of that time. He has a small collection of arrow heads which he prizes.

He remembers working for John A. Whitman when his son, James Whitman, now the oldest pioneer resident of Midland county was a mere lad. He tells of working on the river with Leonard Reed of Sanford, when they "poled" scows up the river with supplies for Midland.

Mr. Potter has made many trips on the old river boat Belle Seymour between Midland and Saginaw. He says that the best was of the sidewheel type and that it was about 70 feet long and about 30 feet wide. He remembers the big forest fire of 1870 and with others fought fires for three days and nights in the vicinity of Bullock creek. He recalls when tea

was sold out of the local stores at $1.70 to $2.00 per pound and flour sold for $14.00 a barrel.

After Mr. Potter grew to manhood he in time became a lumberjack and worked in many of the camps of Midland county. As the county became denuded of its forests he turned his attention to farming and has lived for many years on his farm in Homer township.

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MIDLAND HAD A BAND IN 1868

First Orchestra Formed in 1864 Just 60 Years Ago

MIDLAND SUN - March 13, 1924 - Midland organized its first band in 1868 today two members of that organization are alive, John Johnson of this city and Cooley Ball of St. Johns. Recalling this pioneer among Midland's musical organizations, John Johnson pioneer barber, stated that it was known as Larkin's band because John Larkin financed it. The uniforms were very modest - just linen dusters - Mr. Johnson preserved his until the fire of 1909 when it was burned. Lewis Eastman, Charles Hecox and John Johnson were cornet men; Charles Tournier, alto; Cooley Ball, baritone; Charles VanDusen, bass; Garber, snare drum; Thomas Turnbolt and Charles Mick, clarinets; and Warren Hecox, flageolet. Later Eugene Beryman played baritone for this band. Mr. Johnson says the first orchestra was organized in 1864 and was composed of the following: First violin Thorn Mathewson, second violin Fill Mathewson, clarinet Thomas Turnbolt, and guitar John Johnson.

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OBITUARY - BERTHA LETTS

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - April 3, 1924. Mrs. Bertha Letts, wife of William Letts passed away at her home in the first ward, Saturday evening of diabetes, after an illness of nearly four years. Bertha Schofield was born July 4, 1876, in Lapeer, and came to Midland when 12 years of age. She has been a resident of this city for the past 36 years.

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OBITUARY - HIRAM BATES

MIDLAND SUN - April 3,1924. Hiram Bates, veterinary surgeon passed away Sunday at the house of Mrs. Ida Shoup, corner of Ellsworth and Cronkright streets, at the age of 72 years. Deceased was born June 22, 1851, at Mt. Clemens.

The funeral was held Wednesday at ten o'clock from the Black & Bradley rooms, Rev. T.E. Hackle officiating. Interment was made in the Midland cemetery.

Dr. Bates lived in this city for about 35 years and in his earlier life practiced here as a veterinary surgeon.

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GOLDEN WEDDING OBSERVED MARCH 19 BY HOPE COUPLE

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - April 3, 1924. Mr. and Mrs. Erastus Wright celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at their house in Hope on Wednesday, March 19.

A large number of friends and relatives were present and many events of pioneer days were recalled.

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SUFFERS INJURY WHEN CAUGHT IN MACHINERY

MIDLAND SUN. - Apr. 3, 1924. John Henning, 45, residing on N. Townsend street was injured early last Sunday morning while in charge of a brine well for the Dow Chemical company at the Ox-Bow. Mr. Henning was oiling the machinery when in some manner he was caught and hurled to the ground. He suffered a dislocated left shoulder and a number of bruises. He was also cut about the face. It is reported that he is getting along nicely.

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PIONEER CITIZEN DIED TUESDAY

MIDLAND SUN. - Apr. 3, 1924. Thomas Bailey died Tuesday afternoon at the house of his son John in Mt. Haley township. Although death followed a short illness, he had been in feeble health for several

months. Mr. Bailey had been a resident of Midland county for over 45 years. He was born in Montreal, Canada November 15, 1845, and at the time of his death was 78 years, 4 months and 16 days of age. He was united in marriage to Miss Mary McCaby of Cleveland, Ohio, in the Fall of 1878, and they came to Midland the following spring. He is survived by four children: Mrs. B.N. Olds, and John Bailey of Midland, Mrs. Frank LaChance and William Bailey of Cadillac, and 12 grandchildren.

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WORK STARTS ON NEW POST OFFICE

MIDLAND SUN, May 22, 1924 - William Cook, superintendent of Construction for Contractor A. Landberg, of St. Louis, Mo., arrived in Midland last Friday from Georgia to start work on Midland's new Post Office.

Mr. Cook did not lose any time getting busy. He hired a local man, contracted steel wheelbarrows, lumber and other necessary equipment and ground was broken last Monday for the foundation of the new federal building at the corner of Main and Gordon streets. It is expected that the basement will be completed in about two weeks. Building materials have been arriving for the past several days and this will soon be moved from the depot to the building site.

Mr. Cook motored through from Georgia with his family having just completed a post office job in that state.

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LARGE VOLUME OF MAIL HANDLED

MIDLAND SUN, May 24, 1924 - Postmaster Thompson stated that May 20, 21, and 22 were red letter days in the history of the local post office in the volumes of first class mail dispatched. The total number of pieces handled was over 15,000. On May 21, a total of 8,910 were dispatched. This represented the largest volume of first class mail ever dispatched in a single day from the local post office.

This unprecedented consignment of mail through the local office is due to the fact that local concerns are going after business despite the fact that this is a presidential election year and the wail of a few calamity howlers. It shows that Midland still possesses a few optimists.

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SANFORD FIRE LOSS ESTIMATED ABOUT $25,000

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - May 22, 1924. Fire of unknown origin completely destroyed the business block owned by Kate Francis in Sanford at a early hour Wednesday morning.

The general store of Emory Evans and a restaurant owned by George Burns were located in this block. The stocks and fixtures of both business places were a complete loss. The occupants of the living rooms escaped in their night clothing. A small quantity of furniture was saved.

Mr. Evans stated Wednesday that his loss would total about $11,000 and that it was only partially covered by insurance. The building was worth about $8,000 and we understand the insurance carried was about $1500. While Mr. Burns lost his entire stock and fixtures and part of his furniture, his estimated loss is not known. The insurance is small.

The fire was discovered in the restaurant about 12:30, but it spread so rapidly that nothing could be done to save the building and stocks. The Midland Fire Department was called and the fire truck made the run. The truck was placed on the bridge west of the village and an attempt made to pump water from the river. The engine, however, was unable to deliver the water because its positive lift was only 23 feet and that required to effectively deliver the water was 29 feet. While the water was lifted to 26 feet, it could not be delivered.

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MOTHER OF SEVEN SMALL CHILDREN PASSES AWAY

Midland Sun, May 22 1924 - Mrs. Bessie Smith, wife of James Smith of Homer Township, died yesterday at Mercy hospital at Bay City. Deceased was born in this county January 29, 1886 and was 38 years of age.

The funeral was held Tuesday from the Nazarene church, Rev. Charles Hare officiating, and interment made in Midland cemetery.

Besides the husband James Smith, she is survived by seven small children, the youngest being only three weeks old; her mother Mrs. Jacob Tripp; and three brothers, Benjamin of this city, William and Russell of Lansing.

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BAY CITY DOCTOR MAKES SPEED RECORD

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - August 29, 1924. Dr. Ballard of Bay City was stopped by a traffic officer Wednesday noon for speeding. He was taken to Justice Fales office, but when he made known his identity and explained to the officer that he was returning from Mt. Pleasant and was hurrying to the hospital to attend a patient, he was allowed to go.

The officer states that there was no doubt about the doctor being in a hurry as he drove through Main street at 38 miles an hour and was speeding along between 65 and 70 miles an hour when the officer signaled him to stop.

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MUD, BEARS, WOODS APLENTY IN 1856

Mrs. Emma Gerard of Smith's Crossing
Still Lives On Original Homestead

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - October 22, 1925. Mrs. Emma Gerrard, 82 years old, who lives near Smith's Crossing came to Midland County in 1856 with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Amos Braley and settled on a homestead and still lives in the same place. This downs all previous records for living in one location continuously over such a long period. Mrs. Gerard has called the present farm her 'home' for nearly 69 years.

A very interesting letter was written by Mrs. Gerard, telling of the many happenings of years ago. Mrs. Gerard says there are only a few of the 'old timers' left in her community. Her daughter, Mrs. Charles Martemis and husband live with her and work the farm. Her husband, Leonard Gerrard died thirteen years ago. Mrs. Gerrard has a brother, Oliver Braley, living in New York state.

Here is the letter: I was born in Thomas township, Saginaw county in 1844, the 29th day of January and came with my parents, Amos and Marilda Braley to Midland County in 1856, the ninth day of December. The roads were very muddy. We got to Freeland's about noon and stopped to my aunt Louisa King's for dinner. We started about 3 o'clock and went about three miles this side of Freeland's. Mother and I started to walk when a man named Steve Stillwell put me on the wagon, seating me on a table with the legs sticking up which he said would keep me from falling. My mother went on afoot. When we came to what they called the long woods, the roads were not what they are now, being partly corduroy. Not a wagon track even and big rows of pine and hemlock trees.

When we came to the woods, the owls kept asking who I was. Never a word did I peep but my hair was one inch shorter when we got out of the woods. We stopped at Bill Davis place where Frank Whitman now lives. Father had him take his oxen and fetch him over to our little home. Father had cleared a place in the wilderness along the river for a log house. It had one room with fireplace, two bedrooms and a little loft overhead. Wilderness, I should say, we couldn't see our neighbors. No one lived between the river road and Bay City road. But here there were some lumber camps along the way. There was Bill Aranee, Charles Blodgett across the river. George Davis lived where Roy Walker has his hen house on the hill. Grandpa Arman lived with Lee Davis this side of Mr. Walker's barn.

Smith's Crossing is named after Alanson Smith who lived there. Aldman lived about one mile below the crossing. Just above us lived Uncle Jim Hubbard. We couldn't see their shanty. It is called the Currie farm now. James Major was above them on the bank of the river and next was Haten Ellsworth. Across the river where the county farm is now located Steve Benson owned a place. On the bluffs lived Uncle Ely Hubbard. Across the river from there lived Mr. Rice and Mr. Banks.

One time when Aunt Lucinda Hubbard was coming home from the Bluffs about dusk (it was all woods between the road and the river and there was lots of acorns on the ground) she heard something rustling. Looking she saw an old bear and cub. She stood there and hollered until Mr. Ellsworth came and killed the cub. The bear got away.

Where Jim Hubbard lives the road ran down the hill and struck the river then went straight into Midland. Jack Crane farm and Neil Kent

place lay on the river bank near Midland where the Dow plant is located. Across the river was an Indian reservation. They held many camp meetings there. Among the ministers, who were traveling missionaries and used to nearly always stop at our house, were: Mr. Cross, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Tuthill and Mr. Griffin.

My cousin and her husband Dan and Mary Wyman, had a tent. My parents stayed with them one day. Two babies were born at the reservation one night. My cousin and my mother went to see them. The mother had one of them dressed and strapped on a board and this one she carried on her back. She took the other in her arms and went to the meeting (church camp meeting).

I have seen a family sit down before a bowl of soup with wooden spoons. One dip and then the other until it was all gone.

When my father came here there were about 25 or 30 houses in Midland. John Larkin kept the hotel and ran a sawmill and Eastman brothers kept a store just off Main Street where the Benson street bridge crosses the river. He poled his goods from Saginaw in a scow. The mail was brought to Midland by horseback. Later they had a stage to carry passengers and the mail. Dave Crane drove the stage a while, then they built a boat named the Midland City. They sold it and built the Belle Seymore. In her last trip she went aground a mile this side of Freeland's. Then in '68 the railroad men bought the right of way from the farms and put the railroad through. In '68 and '69 the cars began to run passengers and freight.

It is now nothing to see cars, busses and trucks. I have seen airplanes fly over my home. I haven't head a radio yet, but expect to hear one soon. Now they have a coal mine and a big chemical plant. I have been in Midland county for 69 years and am still on the old homestead.

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LIVED HERE 65 YEARS HAS GREAT-GREAT GRANDCHILD

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - February 9, 1929. Residing in one county for sixty-five years and having relatives of five generations living is an unusual record. Yet Mrs. Martha Thorington of Coleman is the proud ancestor of a great-great-granddaughter, Betty Lou Keeley, infant

granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Keeley of this city and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Emory Keeley of Saginaw. In addition, she has lived in Midland county since the Civil War was in progress. Mrs. Thorington, born in New York state in 1848, is over eighty years of age and is in the best of health. She came to Midland in 1863 with her husband, Benjamin Thorington, a brother of the late Justus Thorington of this city.

It was just 45 years ago that this young couple boarded the "Belle Seymour," which plied the waters of the Tittabawassee from Saginaw to Midland, Leaving the former place with all worldly possessions, they proceeded up the winding river, each to become another among the early pioneers of this section. Now more than a half century has elapsed and Mrs. Thorington still recalls the vivid scenes of the vast wilderness, which in years to come was destined to be Midland.

What is now known as the Ox-Bow, just west of Midland was the site first chosen for the Thorington home. Lumbering was an industry which was rapidly transposing this section from wilderness to hustling farming communities. Mr. Thorington became engaged in its folds and was known throughout the camps for many years.

Four girls and two boys were born to this couple, and of that number, five are still living. They are Mrs. Allie(?) Bowen of Midland, Mrs. Ida Coons of Coleman, Justus Thorington of Gladwin, Mrs. John McTaggart of Coleman; Mrs. Maggie Koontz of Coleman. One son, John B. Thorington died here five years ago, while Mrs. Thorington's husband passed away twenty-two years ago at Coleman. The family had moved from Midland to Gladwin and later to Coleman, but almost continuously for 45 years, Mrs. Thorington has lived in this county.

Exemplifying the typical pioneer, Mrs. Thorington tells of many interesting features in connection with the early history of Midland and this section. She came on the "Belle Seymour" which docked where the Benson street bridge is located. Bears were found in large numbers, while it was not at all uncommon to find deer very plentiful, Mrs. Thorington relates.

The five generations are Mrs. Thorington, age 80 born in New York state, 1848; Mrs. Ida Coons, her daughter, now of Coleman, but born at Midland in 1868; Mrs. Charles Keeley, granddaughter of Mrs. Thorington, born at Midland in 1882, and now living here; Emory Keeley, born at Coleman in 1904, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Keeley, and the great-grandson of Mrs. Thorington, now lives at Saginaw. Betty Lou

Keeler age nine months, who completes the five generation chain was born at Flint and now lives in Saginaw.

Mrs. Thorington has 27(?) grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandaughter.

(The article is headed by a photo of the five)

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JAMES WHITMAN DEATH RECALLS THAT HIS FATHER WAS THE COUNTY'S FIRST PERMANENT WHITE SETTLER

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - May 23, 1929. With the passing of James Whitman of Lee township, Midlanders were recalling this week how closely his life had been knit into the early history of the environs of the county. From his birth until death --86 years-- Mr. Whitman lived within the environs of the county and saw a timbered wilderness converted into a farming and industrial center. He was credited with being the oldest native resident, his father John A. Whitman having carved a clearing in the wilderness near Smith's crossing in 1836, to become the first permanent white settler. (ED NOTE: also see the articles on pages 1, and 7).

It was May 31, 1843 that James Whitman came into the world in a log cabin in the little clearing near Smith's Crossing, then in Saginaw County, but today in Midland County. The present city of Midland was known as "The Forks" and three homes had been thrown up from rough logs. Joseph Townsend lived in one, having arrived in 1842 and Charles Fitzhugh built the other while a third was constructed by a man named Alma according to the story related by Mr. Whitman a few months before his death.

Lack of neighbors in those days meant that the young lad had to depend chiefly upon Indians for his playmates. He became as proficient in the art of arrow making and use of bow and arrow as the redskin youngsters. "They were good neighbors," said the aged pioneer of the Chippewa tribes living here at that time. He delighted in relating how Chief Shanabasee and his braves came to their house, when everyone was sick with fever and ague, cut the wood, husked corn and helped dig potatoes during the emergency and then refused to take any pay from his father.

The rivers and forests teemed with fish and game and he could sit by the hour and tell of the hunting, fishing, canoeing and playing with Indian lads. For several years Mr. Whitman worked for the Tittabawassee Boom Company and he often said he rode down the stream on the first raft of logs ever dumped into the turbulent waters. The raft was of "crib" design and was sent down stream from the territory near Smith's Crossing known as "the Bluffs".

In an early day there was a large Indian settlement near the present city and Mr. Whitman often recalled seeing as many as 100 birch bark canoes on the river at one time. Deer traveled in large droves, as many as 100 together not being unusual here. The great sturgeon was present in the river in great numbers and Mr. Whitman often told of seeing 100 pound fish traded for a plug of tobacco. The Indians caught and dried and smoked the fish for winter use when they came up the river to spawn about June 1.

Charles Rodd operated the first store in Midland and it was located west of the present Dow Chemical plant. The first saw mill was on Snake Creek. Ryanell Chaffee brought the first mail to Midland from Saginaw by pony in 1857 and Mr. Whitman said this was one of the big events in that early day.

For many years he was a prosperous farmer and owned a business block in Midland.

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ONLY 12 CIVIL WAR VETS ARE STILL IN THE RANKS

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - May 30, 1929. **GEORGE W. FROST**. George W. Frost was born in Alabin township, Oswego, County, New York on April 17, 1846. He enlisted Company A, 184th New York infantry. Mr. Frost fought in the battle of Winchester under Phil Sheridan, served his country in the siege of Petersburg and was in many important battles fought in the Shenandoah Valley. Mr. Frost was mustered out of service at Syracuse, New York, at the close of the war. He came to Midland County in 1872 and resides on East Ellsworth Street.

THOMAS B. MAIN. Thomas Briggs Main was born in the county of Norfolk, Ontario on December 31, 1847. He enlisted in the

service of the United States, his adopted country, in Detroit on October 11, 1864, as a member of Company E, 23rd Michigan Volunteer Infantry. Among the important battles of the Civil War in which he fought was Franklin, 20 miles south of Nashville, November 30, 1864 and the battle of Nashville on December 15 and 16, 1864. He was mustered out of the service at Washington, D.C., at the close of the war. Mr. Main came to this county in January 1877 and resides on West Main Street. He served his county as register of deeds for ten years from 1883 until 1893. Mr. Main has always taken a keen interest in city, county and national affairs. He has been a member of St. John's Episcopal Church and the Masonic Lodge for a number of years and has filled the principal offices of the local G.A.R. post of which he is a charter member.

WALTER A. SCRIBNER. Walter A. Scribner was born in Queenstown, New York, on October 14, 1846, enlisted in Company H, 28th New York Cavalry in 1863, and served 29 months before being mustered out. He fought in several important battles including Clover Hill, Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court House, and Cold Harbor, where he was wounded by a bullet in the left knee. He was taken to Grosvenor Hospital, Washington, D.C., where he mustered out in January, 1865. Mr. Scribner came to Midland County from New York State about 20 years ago and resides in Coleman.

DANIEL GEISTER. Daniel Geister, 84 years, enlisted in Co. E, 161st New York Infantry, when only 15 years of age. Large for his age, he was accepted without questions as were 800,000 other boys in the Union Army, according to reports, which add that 100,000 were not over 15. Mr. Geistner had his first taste of war with Gen. Philip Henry Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley. Perhaps his deepest impression of the conflict was of a collisions of troop ships on the Mississippi, when 36 Union soldiers were killed. He was present at the capture of Mobile, Alabama, which came about the time of Lee's surrender. This veteran was born in Markham, Ont. For some years he has made his home with his daughter Mrs. John McCarter, here. For the past month, however, he has been at the home of his niece, Mrs. William Cook, in Bay City, where he is reported to be in rather poor health.

DAVID WEST. David West, now a resident of Edenville, although approaching his 90th birthday the 20th of next October, is still hale and hardy and has lately purchased a sheep ranch. This veteran of Gettysburg, Bull Run and other conflicts of the Civil War was born at Utica, New York. He enlisted in '61 and again in '63 serving four and a half years in all. Mr. West has been a resident of Midland county for about 45 years. His home now is located about one and three-quarters miles south of Edenville.

GEORGE O. ROCKWELL. George O. Rockwell was born at Cambridge Springs in Crawford County, PA., on August 29, 1848. Mr. Rockwell became a soldier with the Union forces in his sixteenth year, enlisting in Company E, Second Pennsylvania Cavalry on February 25, 1864. He was engaged in the battles of Ashland Station, Hanover Ferry, Old Church Tavern, Cold Harbor, Malvern Hill, Stony Creek, and the final fight before Petersburg. He was mustered out of the service in Philadelphia on July 26, 1865. Mr. Rockwell came to Midland County in 1867 with a cousin, Charles Herrick, making an overland trip from Ashtabula county, Ohio. with a two horse team. He served this city twice as mayor and is a prominent Mason and Odd Fellow. He resides at the corner of Ellsworth and Rodd streets.

CHARLES GUNN. Charles Gunn was born in Arcadia, Wayne county, New York on August 21, 1845. He enlisted in Company I, 30th Michigan Infantry in Tuscola county, Michigan in 1864. Mr. Gunn says that he put in a considerable amount of time drilling, but was not engaged in any battles. He was mustered out at Detroit in June, 1865. He came to Midland county in 1870 and lives on Ashman Street.

DAVID MUTTON. David Mutton was born in England and enlisted in the Civil War at Mason, Michigan on February 15, 1865 in Company A, 9th Michigan Infantry. While in a number of skirmishes Mr. Mutton says that he was not engaged in any of the major battles of the war. He was mustered out at Detroit in August, 1865. He came to Midland County about 39 years ago and following a residence of several years in this county moved to Beaverton. About eight years ago he returned to this county and is now living in Coleman.

LEVI KLINGER. Levi Klinger was born in Luzerne county, PA, on July 11, 1844 and enlisted in that county in Company E, 95th Pennsylvania Infantry in the winter of 1864. Mr. Klinger has the distinction of having fought in 17 battles and skirmishes of the Civil War, including the battles of the Wilderness and Petersburg, where he suffered two wounds. He was mustered out at Harrisburg, PA, in the fall of 1865. Mr. Klinger has been a resident of Midland County for 30 years and lives in Coleman.

WILLIAM GILMAN. William Gilman was born in Genesee County, Michigan on August 20, 1839. He served in Company C, 29th Michigan Infantry and enlisted at Saginaw on September 15, 1864. He fought in the battles of Nashville, Decatur, Alabama, and other engagements. Mr. Gilman first visited Midland county in 1854, and came to this county to reside in 1872. He lives on Sayre Street.

GEORGE BRADSHAW. George Bradshaw, who was born in Hilton, Derbyshire, England in 1835, fought for his adopted country in the battles of the Wilderness, Gettysburg and a number of other conflicts of the Civil War. He was mustered out of the service at Buffalo, NY in 1865 and recently celebrated his ninety-fourth birthday. He came to Midland county about 22 years ago and is a resident of Geneva township.

S.D. SHAFFNER. S.D. Shaffner, who resides on West Ellsworth street had the honor of being one of four brothers to serve in the Civil War. He was born in Jefferson county, PA, on December 19, 1846 and enlisted in Company F, 1st Battalion Pennsylvania Infantry at Pittsburgh, PA, in July 1864 and served until December of the same year. Mr. Shaffner came to Midland county in 1880 and resided in Ingersoll township for a number of years. He has been school director and drain commissioner.

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MEMORIAL DAY

Arrangement for Parade

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - May 30, 1929. Col. Orville R. Carey, chief of staff will lead off on horseback. Chief marshall Thomas B. Main and staff and members of Dwight May Post of the Grand Army of

the Republic and Civil War Veterans conveyed by automobiles. Color bearer and guard of honor from Berryhill Post will be led by the Chemical City Band, Robert Heisman, director. Immediately behind the colors will be members of Berryhill Post commanded by Dr. Frank L. Hardy and members of the World War and Spanish American war; 107th Motorcycle Company in charge of Lt. Mearl Baringer; Hon. John A. Whitman, mayor, city council, Dr. F.B. Lambir, orator of the day, clergy and city and county officers and members of the board of supervisors. officers of the board of education. Members of the Daughters of the American Revolution, National League of Veterans and Sons, Red Cross, Boy and Girl Scouts. School band. City schools, J.J. Schafer, Superintendent, St. Brigid's school, county schools.

PARK PROGRAM - (1) Invocation - Rev. J.B. Illig. - (2) Band selection. - (3) Lincoln's Gettysburg Address - High School Student. - (4) Band Concert. - (5) Benediction - Rev. V.V. Nicholas.

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A GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - October 30, 1929. Sol Gowings and 140 Guests Celebrate an 50 Year Ago day With Open House October 26. 'Aunt Em' Thurber having left the last of her six 'boys' contentedly finishing lunch at her capacious table, she and we hurried over to 'Sol' Gowings in order to catch 'Sol', her sisters husband, before he went to work again for the afternoon.

And in our haste we overdid it, probably. At any rate, the Gowings were just finishing their own midday repast when we arrived. But they good-naturedly allowed they'd had enough til supper time, and came in to tell us about their golden wedding. We could have told there had been something up, by the white and gold streamers from the chandeliers and the bouquets of gold mums here and there, with gold ribbons and cards suspended. These remained from the party Saturday celebrating the event fifty years ago Sunday.

It was that half-a-century-ago day that we were mostly thinking about, too, as we looked at the gifts and heard about the big family dinner celebration last Saturday. It's a funny thing how little people seem to think about the original wedding when the golden one comes around.

"I'll bet you were scared that day." we guessed. And Mr. Gowing grinned and admitted he was.

"I should say they were.", said Aunt Em. "Sol's hair stood up straight. My sister and his brother stood up with them, and they were so scared they didn't know what to do, but Sol was worse yet!"

The Gowings looked at each other and grinned good-naturedly. "Where was it," we asked, "Not here?"

Here we had to resort to the wedding certificate, which came down from its place on the wall to supply the name of the town.

Trowbridge, Ontario, Canada, it turned out to be. And the date October 27th, 1879. "What did you wear?" "There's a wedding picture on the wall, too," says Mr. Gowing, "But wait, there's a little one you can see better."

Forthwith came a little album with a brass catch, and a tintype set into the page. And there they stood, her hand through his arm. Sure enough, he was scared after the traditional fashion of grooms, but the bride was calm, after the fashion of all brides. Her dress was a basque with a multiplicity of buttons, and overskirt with a drape, over a pleated under portion. Her hair was smoothed back over her forehead. Her partner-for-better-or-worse was attired in a suit of dark stripe, cut away coat, stock, ... "and my Dad's shoes," finished Mr. Gowing.

"They had a picture taken at Listerville, nearby, after the ceremony in the Methodist parsonage, and had come to her parent's home at Molsworth, and then had gone at once to the home of his 'Dad', where the threshing was on.

Then we had to ask how they happened to meet... where they had first met each other. Mr. Gowing couldn't remember. "Annie," he asked, "what was the first time I ever saw you?" Mrs. Gowing knew. "We I came over to your house with Jane and Lottie," she said laughing. "We pretended we came to see the old folks, but we really came to see the young fellows." "Not a bit different than young folks are today," said Mrs. Thurber. "And then we went together for seven years," said Mrs. Gowing.

"How did you happen to come here to Midland?" "Well," said Mr. Gowing, "My father, Sam Gowing, was hunting land, and he went clear to Nebraska without finding anything he wanted to buy. Finally he came clear to Poseyville and located on the old Keep farm. That was the year after we were married. We all came and lived together with him for one season, then split the farm and each of us boys took 40 acres. I took the farm Feusse owns now. My folks lived with me."

Asked whether any single event or year had left its deepest impression on them than any of the others, the Gowings reflected a minute. "Not unless it's the time George Strowbridge got lost," he said. "He borrowed George Anger's gun and went hunting. Got lost and all neighbors took their guns and went hunting for him. They agreed to shoot off their guns if they found him, for a signal. They found his body in a brush heap. He was lost about three days but it was cold, with a heavy fall of snow, although it was only October."

"We moved to Midland 22 years ago," he went on after a while, "and lived on the corner of Rodd and Buttles streets for a long time. I've done about every kind of work you could turn hour hand to, since I've been in town... carpentering, painting, masonry. I didn't intend to do anything at all when we moved in, but that doesn't do," he averred, shaking his head.

And so the long and the short of it is that the Solomon Gowings held open house at 1101 Ashman Street from ten in the morning until four in the afternoon Saturday and were visited by about 140 of their friends, relatives and members of their church (the Nazarene) to honor the day. And they received twenty dollars in gold and a table lamp from members of the family, and flowers... big and baby mums, and yellow roses... from friends.

"If you're going to say anything about it in the paper," said the fifty-years-ago bridegroom, "I hope you'll thank everyone. I couldn't say anything while they were here."

The Rev. Wiggs of the Midland Church spoke a few appropriate words, and a prayer, and a rousing family dinner at which more than 75 relatives were present, rounded out the celebration.

The Gowings have three adopted 'children'... James Grasley of Midland, Mrs. James Hepinstall, who used to be Maud O'Dell, and 'Jimmie', a sophomore in high school, who still lives with them.

In the guest book for the golden wedding appear the following names of out-of-town visitors: Mrs. Sadie Graves, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Ketchum, Lyle, Jr., and Lenora June Ketchum, Lansing; Margaret Stevens, Stockbridge; Allan Gowing and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Gowing, Fowlerville; Belle and William Hepinstall, Josiah, Maud, Claude and Jeremiah McLaughlin, John Gowing, Fred U., Jennette, and Ardene DeBolt, Julia and Cephus McLaughlin, and Amos Hepinstall, Saginaw; Lester E., Myrna and Joan Hepinstall, Freeland; Fredah Cook, Hemlock;

Mrs. Edith McLaughlin, Saginaw; Mrs. Maggie Cook, Hemlock: Myrtle, Marjorie, Elaine and Walter Milner, Freeland; Betty Jean Cook, Hemlock; Dola, Delmer C., Ruth, Bud, and Ned Gowing, Anna and Minor Shaffer, Rufus and Hazel Parsons, all of Highland Park; and Ruth M. Tisdale of Detroit.

Brothers and sisters of Mr. Gowing were all in attendance, including James, John, and Sam Gowing, and Mrs. Pat Nagel, all of Midland. Of the brothers and sisters of Mrs. Gowing, only one was absent, Wesley Hepinstall of White Cloud. Those present were Mrs. James Gowing and Mrs. Emma Thurber of Midland; William and Amos Hepinstall and Mrs. Jerry McLaughlin of Saginaw, Mrs. William Cook of Laporte, and Ira and James Hepinstall of Poseyville.

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GENEALOGICAL RECORDS COLLECTED BY D.A.R. HERE; MRS. SCHAFER AGAIN REGENT

MIDLAND - MAY 1930 - The John Alden Chapter D.A.R. met with Mrs. D.A. Newland Friday, May 2nd with Mrs. Orrin J. Snow as assistant hostess. was the annual meeting and the officers and committee chairmen gave their reports for the year. The officers elected for the coming year were as follows: Mrs. J.J. Schafer, regent; Mrs. D.A. Newland, first vice regent; Mrs. L.A. Chichester, second vice regent; Mrs. Chas. Handley, recording secretary; Mrs. C.C Kennedy, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Chas. Clason; historian; Mrs. Emma Fitz; chaplain; Mrs. H.H. Dow, registrar; Mrs. Alex Gibson, treasurer. During the social hour the hostesses served delicious refreshments. The Chapter is trying to start a collection of genealogical records at the Carnegie Library and there are a few volumes there already. There is also a glass case at the library which is reserved for antiques and relics which are not too large. Any one wishing to contribute to this collection will please notify Mrs. Charles Clason.

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200-MAN CREW STAGED RIVER FIGHT

MIDLAND DAILY NEWS - January 15, 1931. "I heard a scuffling in the barroom of Moore's saloon and when I went in, the gang had an old man and was sticking him head first into a barrel of water, with a live cat buttoned inside his shirt. He kicked and finally tipped over the

barrel. That's all that saved his life. They used to call that fun in the old days at Edenville."

J.W. Jackson, now of Averill, wasn't a drinking man even in those days when the art was as common and expected as bridge today. But an Edenville man who didn't know what went on in Tom Moore's place was behind the times indeed.

"I saw them take a foolish fellow one day," he said Saturday, "and throw him into a mud hole in front of the saloon and tell him to swim. We was waving his arms and trying to get out. That was supposed to be great sport."

"I've seen as many as 200 men fighting," said Mr. Jackson. "The two rivers, the Tobacco and the Tittabawassee came together right there, and there'd be a crew driving logs down each one. Sometimes they'd meet there and each crew'd try to get its own logs down ahead of the other. Then there'd be a scrap."

It was 51 years ago the 21st of October that Mr. and Mrs. Jackson with a four weeks old baby made the slow horse-and-wagon trip from Tuscola county to the northern part of Hope township.

"A snow storm came up," he said remembering the journey, "and my wife sat on some straw in the bottom of the wagon, holding the baby. She didn't get over the effects for a long time - I don't know as she ever got over them," he said turning to look at her as she rocked by the stove.

"Who is that baby now?" he was asked.

"Mrs. William Shepherd of Edenville," they said.

"I worked eight winters in the woods, and three on the drive," went on Mr. Jackson. "Summers I cleaned up the farm. I worked for VanWinkle in his last lumbering days, and then for Bowman and Marsh and Goff. Chopper most of the time."

"Things weren't managed then like they are now. There was one year I know of that I didn't have a cent. They'd pay us in orders on the store, and we couldn't even get a postage stamp. Why I remember being in a store there one time when a little girl came in and had a dozen eggs, and wanted to sell them and buy a stamp for a letter she had there. The fellow told her the government didn't buy eggs. That time I happened to have a little money, so I bought the eggs from her and then turned them in on some things I wanted.

It wasn't till W.L. Baker came in to Midland and paid cash for things that the people could get any money.

"My clothes all got worn out after I came up here. One time I was summoned on a jury in Midland and didn't know what I was going to do because all I had was my working clothes. I walked to Midland and told Will Reardon. "If you'll trust me to a suit of clothes, I'll pay you before I leave town," I said, "provided the jury lasts long enough." Because sometimes they'd be summoned and then dismissed right away. Other times it would last a month. He agreed and I got the clothes - Cost $7.50."

"What was the case?" he was asked.

"An old man down at Smith's Crossing was charged with shooting his wife. He hadn't killed her but he shot at her. I remember we figured that under the circumstances as close as he was, if he had shot at her point blank he could not have missed her very well, she was so large. But we convicted him and asked the clemency of the court on account of his age. That was old Judge Hart - Henry Hart."

The names of Charlie Axford and Ben Lee are always sure to bring forth a yarn or two from any old-timer of "Sixteen," now called Edenville.

"Charlie Axford used to be Justice of the Peace," chuckled Mr. Jackson, "and they'd bring fellows in before him and convict them. Charlie'd fix the fine: "Treat the crowd," he'd order. That was the fine.

"The greatest thing that ever happened to me though was in old Ben Lee's court! Ben, you know was "the marrying justice" of Edenville for years, and the father of John Lee of Midland. He just died last year. Well, one time I was called on a jury for an assault and battery case in his court. Hitchcock was one lawyer, and Myron Gue was the prosecutor. We went to Ben Lee's house in the afternoon. The case didn't amount to much. Jack Shepherd and Bob Mills were the two fellows concerned. They'd had an argument over some damages to crops by a cow and got into a fight.

"We heard the evidence, and about ten at night they sent us upstairs to a bedroom to arrive at a verdict. I was foreman. So soon as we got up there, I says, "Boys, did you ever sit on a jury before without being sworn?"

Then they started to look at each other and said, "By golly, that's right. We weren't sworn. Well, what'll we so now?"

"If we were on the ground floor I know what we'd do," I says.

"We'd crawl out the window and go home."

But we couldn't get out without being seen, so pretty soon we went back down. We'd made up our minds that there was no cause for action in the case.

"Gentlemen have you come to a verdict?" old Ben says.

"Yes Sir," I says.

"What is it?" he asks.

"The verdict is," I says, "that we send for a justice and have the jury sworn."

"You should have seen those lawyers look at each other.

"Well, that's right," they said. "Thet jury wasn't sworn."

"They finally got together and divided the costs and dismissed the case. But they bothered Ben Lee about that for a long time.

"Ben was an awful old fellow," he said, laughing. "Once he got lost in a corn field. He hollered and yelled: 'Be Jabbers, bring me a compass till I work me way out.'"

"Another yarn they tell about him - his son got a fiddle, and Ben heard somebody call it a fiddle.

" 'Be domn, young feller,' he roared, "It's no fuddle, it's a violin.'"

Mr. Jackson admits a modest pride in a record of nine years as drain commissioner for Midland county years ago (about 40) about the time J.J. Savage was editor of the Midland Sun.

"In those days the Drain Commissioner got $3 a day in drain orders," he explains. "If he got his drain in and made the orders good, he got his money: otherwise he didn't. $750 was the most I ever made in one year at that. Nobody wanted the job at that time. Soon as it got so there was some money in it, several wanted it.

"I put in the Jo drain in Poseyville. Lots of children called me 'Jo Drain' and some of the old people do yet, because I was working on it for two or three years. There's a lot of preliminary work, getting the right of way and so on. At first they used to put through shallow drains, but I always thought a man's land might better be three feet under water all the time than just covered up part of the time. Because then he won't go ahead and try to get a crop and later lose all his work. So I advocated deeper drains.

"The biggest special assessment that I ever made on any 40 acres was $125 on Sam Shaffner's. He never raised the slightest complaint - said it paid for itself in one year. It went right down through the center of his land and drained the whole farm."

At 79, Mr. Jackson, though troubled by asthma, looks hale and hearty, and his broad figure with his white hair and close-clipped moustache made him a well known figure about Averill.

"It was a funny thing last night," he said Saturday, when interviewed in their home. "At the Grange meeting here we were numbering: I was 79 and that's just my age."

Mrs. Jackson is 74. They celebrated six years ago the 50th wedding anniversary, in spite of which long span of years they give every indication of still approving their original choice.

"We're old-fashioned," they explain.

"I didn't get married on the installment plan," says Mrs. Jackson.

"Have a little garden and I don't owe a man a dollar," declared Mr. Jackson.

With the lumbering days all past, the two live within sight of the Tittabawassee river where the big 50 million foot rollway once stood. A son, Miles W. Jackson is resident at 316 Rodd street here. Mrs. William Shepherd, the only daughter, lives at present on Ashman street. James of Saginaw is a conductor for the Pere Marquette; Guy A. holds a similar job with the Grand Trunk at Pontiac.

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MAIN STREET A COW PATH WHEN MRS. "SIM" KENT CAME

She Kept Her Gun Handy For Indians While She Cooked In The Woods.

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MIDLAND REPUBLICAN 14 July, 1932 - Mrs. "Sim" Kent's baked beans are a famous element in church suppers here. And the reason is that Mrs. Kent learned to bake them in the days when beans was beans and cooks paid them the respect that is only recently returning to this bostonian and nutritious dish. She learned to bake them in the lumber camps in the days when young Simeon Kent was handling a canthook or driving a team in the woods here.

That was a smart spell ago, too. For when Mrs. Kent, then Sarah Morrison, came into Midland with her people in '66 sometime, there wasn't even the famous cedar block pavement on Main street. Nor had those fine new improvements, the plank sidewalks, made their advent. A cowpath meandered its way along what later became Main street, already heralded by a few places of business, notably Salzbury's grocery store

where the Reinhart bank building stands and the Reinskoff general store where the Brown Lumber office stands.

The Morrison family had moved into Michigan in order to collect a $400 debt from a Lansing firm for putting down an oil well in Canada.

"My father brought us from Pennsylvania to Canada", says Mrs. Kent. "where he put down the well. At that time it seemed that you couldn't collect a debt in the United States if you lived in Canada, so on March 6, 1866 we moved to Saginaw. And on the sixth day of October the same year we came to Midland county. He and his two brothers bought three forties back of the Bluffs.

It was here she met Sim Kent, whose people had come from "York State" in '54 and settled where the "chemical works" are now. And Sarah Morrison's father started up a blacksmith shop on the spot just beyond where the P.M. tracks run now near the Dow plant. And before long she had gone into the timber country with her new husband to cook in the camp kitchen while he worked in the woods.

"The winter we were first married," she says, "in "69. I cooked in a camp just six miles this side of Mt. Pleasant, on the old river road. We had 41 men to cook for.

"I was scared to death of Indians, and always kept my revolver on a shelf right handy. One day I was outside the cook shanty when I saw an Indian coming. He was just loaded down with bark and shrubbery, and he had his gun with him. I rushed in and shut the door and locked it. I heard him come up to the house and put his gun down beside it, but I wouldn't unlock it or say anything. Pretty soon I heard sleighbells and I knew the men were coming.

"They went to the barn and I saw the Indian go out there, too. He told them he'd gone to the house, but he said he guessed the woman there was afraid of him because she'd run in and locked the door. He said he wanted to buy a loaf of bread. The men had a great laugh at me.

"He was a medicine man and had been gathering herbs and things.

"Miss Mahana had her store here then - the first millinery shop, first in the Reardon block and later in the place where McCann's store is now. Sometimes now when I go into the store I say to Ed. McCann, "'Have you seen Miss Mahana lately.' She was a great old girl."

We had hoped to be able to learn from Mrs. Kent more about Maggie Cunningham, who ran a boarding house in early Midland and so endeared herself to the community that one cannot talk to an early resident without bringing forth paeans of praise.

"Maggie was one good soul", declared Mrs. Kent. "Perfect, I never heard nought about her. The traveling men who came here soon heard about her and flocked to her place to stay.

"She was an awful hard worker. She killed herself with hard work. She brought up a couple of girls here."

Where Maggie Cunningham came from Mrs. Kent didn't know. Likely with the Balls when they came here she thought.

"Charlie Oscar had a hotel where Carter's store used to be: that's where Bidwell's is now. When the drive was on as high as 500 men would stop there at a time. They'd have to put up 500 dinner pails - get up at one o'clock in the morning to do it."

"And of those 500 men there wouldn't be 100 that weren't out on a toot every night. But at that there wasn't half the deviltry going on that there is now. And no matter how late they stayed out they'd be up and ready for work on the river the next morning.

"When they'd come down on the rafts they'd stop at our house to get milk and butter and such things to cook with. They'd give me a whole ham for a few pounds of butter.

"It was quite a sight to see them on the river working in the water up to their waists. When we were on the train coming up from Detroit we saw people from New York and Philadelphia coming to Saginaw to see them bring the logs down.

"The first winter we were here we went to the Bluffs school. The Blodgetts went to school there, too. Carrie, (Mrs. E.H. Lyon), Belle, and Charlie. They lived down by the Bailey bridge. And Jim Major's folks lived there too. Mrs. Joe Bradley on Main street and Will Major belong to that family."

Mrs. Kent believes that of all the depressions she's ever seen the present on is the prime specimen.

"I'm no Democrat," she declares, "but I want to tell you - everyone's howling about the (President) Cleveland times, but they were good compared to now. In those days everything was cheap, but everybody had work.

"We had cows, and I used to make my butter in pound pats and get ten cents a pound for it. If I had put it in crocks or jars it would have brought only eight. Sugar got down to five cents but just for a while We

sold hay for $5 a ton in the shock, but we had no trouble getting rid of it.

"We had a big house in the first ward where my family was raised, and one year we decided to build on some extra room. So we hired carpenters at 75 cents a day. You couldn't get a man to pick up a saw today for that. One of the carpenters is alive now - Frank Barth.

"But everybody was alike in those days," said Mrs. Kent. "If you didn't have much, nobody else had much more, and it never made any difference anyway. Nowadays it's different."

Mrs. Kent adds an interesting sidelight on her husband's people in the fact that they operated a ferry on the Saginaw river before there was any bridge across it at the city of Saginaw.

Mr. Kent's death occurred years ago. Of the family there are Mrs. Francis B. Lambie, Anderson Kent, and Mrs. Sam Barth, all of Midland, and Mrs. Jacob Hitzert of Onaway. A son Lewis died many years ago.

In the Lambie family Mrs. Kent has a granddaughter, Mrs. Cletys Martin, and a great-granddaughter, Mary Irene. In the Anderson Kent family there are three, Miss Jean Kent, Mrs. Frank Sasse, and Mrs. Walter Olson of Jackson. Mrs. Sasse has a daughter, Lucille. The Sam Barths have a son, Walter.

Mrs. Kent was 80 years old on May first. She lives at 115 W. Carpenter street.

(The article also had a photograph of Mrs. Kent and her great-granddaughter Mary Irene Martin. See also the article about Mrs. Kent in an earlier in this collection.)

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HOMER TOWNSHIP, MIDLAND, MICHIGAN

Proceedings of Township Board Meetings - Primary Election. Meeting held on the 13th day of Sept. A.D. 1932.

Election Board called to order by John Smith, Supervisor.

Motion made and supported that Alex Lavier act as gatekeeper - carried.

Herbert Larsen - gatekeeper
Ben Phillips - inspecter
John Smith - inspecter
Charles Mudd - inspecter
John Naugle - Clerk
John Glasgow - Clerk

Officers sworn in by Charles Mudd. Motion made and supported that Ballot boxes be opened and contents destroyed - Carried.

Polls declared open, proceed to vote.

Polls declared closed for one hour, for dinner.

Polls declared open at one o'clock and proceed to vote.

Polls declared closed at six o'clock for supper. Election board called to order at six thirty and proceeded to count ballots.

About seven o'clock, Charles Mudd died at the table while sorting out ballots. Tom Sirrine took his place as inspector.

Alex Lavier - gatekeeper - $4.00
Herbert Larsen - gatekeper - $4.00
Ben Phillips - inspector - $7.20
John Smith - Inspector - $7.20

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SANFORD MAN ISSUED PATENT

MIDLAND MICHIGAN - January 19, 1933. Patents have been secured for both United States and Canada by Frederick Nelson Hand for his new machine for rendering beeswax, oils and fats. Hand, a Jerome Township apiarist, has had several offers for his new invention, but so far none have been accepted.

Equipped with a sprocket and chain drive, belt and vat crank, the machine is a great improvement over the old cider press type. The device took first prize among the new implements at the 1932 Saginaw County Fair. The device will be entered in the Chicago 1933 World's Fair and listed as an "oil renderer".

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MIDLAND ONCE HAD ITS OWN BREWERY

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - May 11, 1935. The program for noon meeting of the Midland Rotary club last Thursday was in charge of Albert Reinhart who took the occasion to reminisce on some of the Midland scenes which were familiar to him as a young man.

Apropos of the expected birth of beer control, Mr. Reinhart mentioned that Midland once housed its own brewery. He remembered how the old building looked on the site across from the Ellsworth street clock room entrance of the Dow plant. He could picture just as vividly the presence of the tannery, then located on the south side of the river, and also the Indian camps scattered up and down both banks of the river.

In his childhood days, Mr. Reinhart said there were only two brick structures in the town, none on Main street, and one a residence across the river, now torn down. Main street was made up of wooden buildings, extending about three blocks, but many intervening lots were vacant. Mostly hotels and feed barns in those days, with residences extending no further north than the present Ellsworth street, as all that area beyond that street was marsh and swamp land. The old Central school building was erected on the present site, which at that time was a long way from town and located almost in the center of the swamp and woods.

Mr. Reinhart later introduced Ed. Austin as the principal speaker and he took the club members on some his interesting auto trips in the California area surrounding his new home of Beverly Hills.

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GARFIELD'S SISTER LIVED AT HOPE

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - August 8, 1935. Though it was over fifty years ago, the older residents of Hope township well remember when President Garfield's sister lived with her schoolmaster husband in a little house only a few rods from the Clark Settlement schoolhouse.

And they can tell you how, after her brother became president of the United States, she left her impoverished though learned husband and went to live in the White House.

You can imagine the stir that was created in the neighborhood when it became known that Schoolmaster Jim Trowbridge's wife was sister to the President himself. And the still greater ruffle that occurred when she found the contrast too great between the gleaming portico of the chief executive's mansion and the sagging doorstep of the little shack behind the schoolhouse, and so took her belongings one day and left.

The Timothy Kelly's live within a half mile of the Clark Settlement school house, and Mr. Kelly himself remembers Jim Trowbridge, with his head full of knowledge and his toes fair sticking out of his boots.

"He was a very smart man," says Mr. Kelly, "but at the time nobody blamed his wife so much for leaving him. He was very poor. I guess he got about $20 a month for his teaching.

"I remember he was a great man for politics, and one time Ketcham, of Wright and Ketcham, the lumberman, sent a man up here to argue with him. Ketcham went along and hid behind a tree, to listen. Trowbridge got up on a stump with his toes sticking out of his shoes and he gave the man fits. The next day Ketcham sent him some shoes and stockings."

But Mrs. Trowbridge's life in the White House was brief. Garfield was inaugurated March 4, 1880, and on the first of July was shot down by an assassin. What happened to his sister after that is not known locally, though Mrs. Kelly remembers reading of her death two years ago at the age of 90. After her flight from Hope township, the schoolmaster sold off

his place (where the orchard he planted still stands) to Phin Braley and went away.

"He was a tough man with the scholars," Mr. Kelly remembers. "One time Tom Sheridan gave him a good shaking up for a name he called his daughter. He grabbed him by the neck in Mrs. Alex Beaubien's house, where he boarded."

The schoolmaster's wife had been gone for some time when Mr. Kelly came into Hope township, an Irishman down from Quebec.

He had come first into Michigan in 1880, he says, where he "discovered Ludington," so green a boy he avers, that "When I saw a dime on the floor of the station at Reed City, I was afraid to pick it up for fear they'd arrest me."

But it was not right away that he settled down on the farm in Hope township where he's been for the past 51 years. With his father (also a Timothy) and his brother Charlie, he set off for Montana Territory in search of gold.

"We went to Butte City and worked on a claim there a year, but it proved out no good, and we left it and went to chopping cord wood. They had factories there as big as Ford's for smelting the ore from the rock for that. We made money at that, but we had to work for it," he says.

When he came back into Michigan in 1884 he had enough money to pay for a couple of forties in Hope.

Asked where he first saw Mrs. Kelly: "Well I'll tell you," he says, "and you'll laugh.

"One day I was putting in hay and something went wrong with the harness and I had to go horseback into town to get it fixed. I was riding down Main street when I saw her standing on the stoop in the front of Miss Mahana's Millinery shop, and I thought she was the handsomest girl that I ever had seen.

"That winter I fell in with her brother when I was working in the woods. We were married the year of the World's Fair in Chicago, in '93."

Mrs. Kelly had come from Port Huron to work in the shop owned for 36 years by Miss Mahana, to get married."

Many a Midland attic contains samples of this long - remembered milliner's art, and Mrs. Kelly describes with amusement her own wedding hat, a tiny affair that perched on the top of her head, proud in its strings and aigrette.

The Kellys have three daughters, Miss Irene, and Miss Cecelia Kelly, (both members of the Midland teaching staff), and Mrs. Frank Keenon of Merrill, and a son William of Port Huron.

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PIONEER RESIDENT DEAD AT 92 YEARS

GRATIOT CO. HERALD - Oct. 13, 1938. Stephen Dolan had lived in St. Louis, Michigan and community 73 years.

Funeral services were held in St. Joseph's Catholic Church at 10 o'clock Monday a.m. for Stephen Dolan 92. Rev. Fr. O.T. McGinn read the mass and burial was in Oak Grove Cemetery beside his wife and daughter. Stephen Dolan was born July 2, 1846 in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, and was the son of Stephen and Bridget Burns who came from Ireland on the ship "Pandora" in 1845. Stephen Dolan, Jr., came to the U.S. when 19 years of age and became a citizen and resident of Gratiot Co. and St. Louis for the past 73 years. He was married to Margaret Murry of Midland May, 8, 1878. she died May 5, 1937. With the exception of 10 years when they lived in St. Louis, they occupied a farm in Jasper Township. Surviving are one son, William, at home: two daughters, Mrs. Kathern Martin of Lansing and Mrs. Theresa Cornelius of Detroit; one grandson Westley Martin of Lansing and one great grandson. Stephen Dolan served the community in which he lived as Justice of the peace 4 terms, was also a member of the board of health and a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

Mr. Dolan died suddenly Thursday evening while at the table following the evening meal. During his active years he was known as a well informed man and an interesting story teller. Sunday afternoon, neighbors and members of his faith assembled with his family at his country residence northeast of St. Louis and held Rosary service for him.

(ED NOTE: Stephen Dolan lived in Midland County, Jasper Twp., not Gratiot Co. This is where their business was conducted and where their newspaper came from.)

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'DOC' BALLARD PERFORMED FIIRST OPERATION

MIDLAND DAILY NEWS - June 8, 1950. "Probably the first appendectomy performed in these parts was done on a fellow over near Auburn by 'Old Doc' Ballard," says Mrs. Hiram Welch, now of Route 1, Midland, who claims the honor of being the oldest in point of service (and still active) of any of those affiliated with Midland District Practical Nurses Association.

"Neighbors were called in to assist then, and my dad was one of them." Mrs. Welch recalls. "The fellow was strapped to the dining room table, chloroform was produced and the 'Doc' got busy. Folks considered it in the nature of a miracle when that man lived, and he lived a good many years to tell about it. Before that they just called the ailment 'inflammation of the bowels' and more than likely you died.

Mrs. Welch recalls one of the first instances of tonsils being removed to cure a repeated and unending case of quinsy. "From then on, every one who met that man had to have a look down his throat to see what it looked like without tonsils," she laughs, "It was quite a novelty."

"Small pox and diptheria" were the most dread diseases of old times named by Mrs. Welch. "Recoveries were few, burials took place in the dead of night, and no one dared come in to the bereaved home to offer comfort or aid," she adds, "the heart broken loneliness of survivors seemed the most pitiful of all to bear."

"Nursing nowadays is a 'snap' as to what it used to be," concludes Mrs. Welch, whose daughter, Mrs. Jack Buchanan, was Midland's first practical nurse to aid in recent hot pack polio treatment. "Why, we used to put in 24 hour a day days, day in and day out for the total wage of $3 a week. "Time off was something almost unheard of," says Mrs. Welch, "you worked with whatever equipment you found in the home or made your own -- if you worked as a nurse in those days you really had to be 'practical'."

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BOUNDARY CORRECTED IN 1873

MIDLAND DAILY NEWS - June 8, 1950. On May 24, 1888 Midland county residents were informed by their local newspaper that all was not as it should be concerning the boundary lines of their county and townships therein.

"Mr. H.F. Olmstead," said the paper, "who is employed in the office of the secretary of state at Lansing, has been unearthing the ancient history of the counties of Michigan, and he has recently furnished us some very curious facts about Midland County which was organized by a territorial act March 2, 1831, 57 years ago.

"This act made the boundary line begin at the intersection of the line between towns 12 and 13 north, with the line between towns 2 and three east, running north from that point along the present eastern boundary of the county, then east to the bay, southward along the bay, and then west, far enough to carry it to a point, four towns west of the place of beginning, or the southwest corner of the present county -- thus including Fraser, Beaver, Garfield, Kawkawlin and a small portion of Bangor and Monitor townships, now of Bay County, and running a line along the south boundary of the present Midland County, but including including none of its territory.

"The error, for such it evidently was, was the use of the word 'east' where 'west' was intended, intended in locating the starting point. This error was corrected in 1873, 42 years later, by an act of the Legislature.

"But in the meantime, in 1857, Bay County was organized, and absorbed about all the territory which the act of 1831 put into Midland County but, in naming the townships which should constitute Bay County, town 15 north, 4 east was not mentioned. This is Kawkawlin, which accordingly belongs to Midland County, so far as any legislation indicates.

"Whether Midland County supervisors will take any steps to regain possession of that valuable territory, remains to be seen.

"In January, 1859, the board of supervisors of Midland County set that portion of Ingersoll Township which lay north and east of the Tittabawassee (a triangular piece) off into Midland Township, in which it was assessed, until 1872 or 1873, when it was assessed as a part of Ingersoll Township again, and has been so assesed ever since, although no act of the supervisors restoring it to Ingersoll appears to be on the record.

"Larkin Township was organized in 1879. Town 16 north 2 east had up to that time been a part of Midland Township. There is no record of its having been assigned to Hope by the board of supervisors, but since 1879 it has been assessed as a part of Hope Township.

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RIVER FIGHT OVER LOGS IS RECALLED

MIDLAND DAILY NEWS - June 8, 1950. It was around 1874 when William Phillips late father of Benjamin and Ernest Phillips, well known Homer residents, settled his family on the rich strip of land where the mouth of Carl (Carroll?) creek enters the Tittabawassee river.

"Father wasn't what you'd call a lumberjack, although he had often 'teamed' in the woods," recalls Ben Phillips, as he is known to his many friends in Homer, "but he was destined to play a part in a lumberjack - logger struggle that really rocked our whole community a few years later.

"Most of the 'big timber' was gone from the woods," related Ben, "but Jack Maloney had a crew cutting hardwood and small stuff up the creek line and figured on bringing it through on high water.

"Meanwhile the big Tittabawassee Boom Company claimed right of way of the whole Tittabawassee in making delivery clear on through Midland of thousands upon thousands of feet of timber bargained for from a whole flock of different camps on up the river.

"Maloney didn't want his logs to get mixed up with that variegated bunch of brand marks but he 'darn' well didn't intend to be blocked off from using the river either.

"So Maloney and his prize axe swingers fixed a four-lined row of spike-filled (so they couldn't be sawed) 'spiles' clean across the Tittabawassee, linked together with massive 'boom-sticks' to hold back that steady drive of on coming logs long enough to get Maloney's drive out from the mouth of Carl Creek.

"Father and a neighbor down the road, named Bugsby, were hired to stand watch so lumberjacks from the Boom Company wouldn't pull any sneak attacks in the night to wreck Maloney's riggings," says Ben. "Because of course the night was when they figured that they'd try whatever 'dirty work' they could cook up.

"Surprisingly the night brought no action, though. Then, early one morning, from a peaceable enough looking buggy across on the Averill side of the river, came trouble in large doses.

"They rigged up long poles with great charges of dynamite fastened to the ends of them," says Phillips, "lit the fuses, and shoved them out to the base of Maloney's spile setup. Roar after roar of exploding charges sent great boom sticks high in the air, snapped to pieces like toothpicks, and those huge spiles split every which way.

"There's still pieces of those deep-set spiles in the river bed there by the mouth of the creek." says Phillips, "but the Tittabawassee Boom Company got all their logs through, and got them through on time. Maloney had to wait until the whole season's drive was over before he finally got his timber through into the river to float on down to the mills.

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IN 100 YEARS MIDLAND MEN PARTICIPATED IN FIVE WARS

MIDLAND DAILY NEWS - June 8, 1950. Midland County men have fought in five wars since the first white settler came here in 1836, and the number called to arms has grown in magnitude as the scope of international friction has twice achieved global dimensions.

But the first war in which a resident of this county saw action -- the American Civil War -- still holds the record for the drain it inposed on the male population in proportion to the whole.

It took all but 21 able-bodied men in the entire county.

When the war broke out in 1861, the county had been organized since 1850 (though it included a larger territory than the present area) and the Village of Midland was not yet incorporated, a development which came in 1869. But there was a definite settlement of farmers and woodsmen here, sufficiently large to have had at least one hotel, built in 1856.

A newspaper record of a later date recalls the rigors the Civil War imposed on the new and struggling county:

"When the first enrollment of those subject to military duty was made in Midland County, 152 men were reported. Of these, 128 enlisted, and three were drafted during the continuance of the war, thus leaving only 21 able-bodied men in the county!

"Leaving their wives and little ones behind, the husbands and fathers hurried to the front, anxious to be the first to aid in the protection of their country's honor and the preservation of the Union.

"Ladies who by reason of birth and education were more fitted for the drawing room than for a life of toil, bravely took charge of the farm, and while the reality of life was thus forced upon them, they uncomplainingly put their hands to the plow, and in some instances wielded the axe, to attain a living for themselves and children.

The supervisors of the county (a body six years old at the war's beginning) appropriated $6,550 for the relief of soldiers' families. The allowance was at the board's discretion, but not to exceed $15 a month, and in the case of a soldier's death, it continued for a year.

In 1865 the men returned home, the war won, and a wave of prosperity struck the county. "Laborers, who before had been so scarce, were plentiful. Business of every character was increased, new business houses were built, saw mills and other manufacturing establishments erected.

"Ministers who had worn the blue now donned their ministerial robes, and glad tidings of peace on earth and good will toward men were heard from every pulpit in the county."

This peace endured for 33 years, terminated by the Spanish-American War of 1898, was declared in April, and the peace treaty signed in December of the same year.

In late June, the 41 men of Midland's contingent of Company A, 35th Michigan regiment left Midland by train, escorted to the station by a long procession consisting of the Midland Cornet band, Knights of Pythias, Grand Army and Dewey Guards.

"Hundreds of people flanked the marching men on either walk," the Midland Republican said. "At the train the departing scenes were touching. Mothers, wives, and sweethearts hung around the lines tearfully ... Now and again one of the brave young fellows wiped away a tear...."

Records are vague as to whether others went also to battle against the militant Spaniards. But fears for Company A, Midland contingent, were dissipated when the group returned within a year without having seen action.

The Spanish-American War was followed quickly by what is sometimes known as the Phillipine war, an aftermath lasting from Feb. 4,

1899, to April 30, 1902. Newspaper files show no record of enlistments nor drafting, but the columns of the day contained letters from Midland County men serving in the campaign which finally reduced the Phillipine insurrectionists to surrender and gave the U.S. undisputed ownerships of the Islands.

But peace this time was shorter lived. It was only 15 years later that the U.S. was drawn into the conflict between the Allies and the Central Powers by a relentless campaign of U-boat warfare by Germany in which American shipping was caught.

War was declared by this country on Good Friday, April 6, 1917, but while volunteers were in uniform before the draft program got under way, it was not until September 5, 1917, that the first contingent of draftees left Midland County.

There were eight in the group: Russell L. Mustard and Clarence E. David of Midland, Orva Winslow and Carey Raymond Vlier of Midland Township, William Charles Kelley of Hope and three from Coleman, Ellis M. Penney, Ed. A. Warren, and Andy J. McFarland.

Before the Armistice Nov. 11, 1918, there were 675 Midland County men overseas or in training, out of a total population of probably less than 13,000.

Now the peace, in this country lasted 23 years, though it was less than 22 years before men from this community were again serving in large numbers in the uniform of the Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marines. Even the girls this time were leaving for the auxilliary units which sprang up for the first time.

For this time Uncle Sam did not wait for an open break with Germany or Japan, current aggressors, before calling up a military force for home defense and in readiness for any attack which might precipitate hostilities.

Men had been drafted months before the Pearl Harbor attack of Dec.7, 1941, by the Japanese, which catapulted this country into World War II. By August, 1944, through selective service and enlistment, the 2,000 mark had been passed for numbers in uniform, out of a county population of around 30,000. That number was to reach 2,371 before the war's end on September 2, 1945, with a total of 84 Midland County men who gave their lives in the service of their country.

Today in the still uneasy peace of 1950, a beautiful bronze plaque placed on the corner of the Midland County Courthouse site through the auspices of Gilbert A. Currie, honors those 2,371 local veterans living and

dead "who helped to carry America to victory in the battlefields throughout the world from Dec. 7, 1941, to Sept. 2, 1945.

Expressing a memorial tribute felt by all of the county's residents through all of her country's war times is the fitting inscription on this plaque which reads "To the Eternal Glory of Those Who Made the Supreme Sacrifice and in Graditude to Our Defenders Who by Their Devotion Suffered and Endured to Assure to Us Those Dearly Earned Gains in Human Rights, Dignity, and Freedom."

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11 NEWSPAPERS HAVE REPORTED MIDLAND'S HISTORY IN 100 YEARS

MIDLAND DAILY NEWS. June 8, 1950 - Journalism in Midland County has had its ups and downs, beginning in 1858 when a publication established by Nathan T. Carr took the name of Midland Sentinel, later the Midland City Sentinel, and finally - after a change of ownership or two - that of Midland Journal.

This name lasted only a few weeks, since the uneasy chair of the editor was inherited by George W. Hughes, who christened his "new" paper the Independent.

Between Carr and Hughes, Carpenter and Bailey, then George Sias, directed the policy, F.F. Hopkins taking over the interests of Carpenter when Hughes couldn't buy out his partner, and in 1866 a man by the name of Bartram took over Hughes interests, later selling them outright to Hopkins.

Confusing? You bet it was, not only for the editors, but for the readers who didn't know from week to week what paper they were reading - Sentinel, Journal, or Independent!

After Bartram got out of the business, Hopkins sold half his interest in the press to James Porter and John Haines, this combination continuing in force until 1871 when M.W. Ellsworth and F.S. Burton purchased the Porter-Haines interests.

A year later E.N. Burton bought out Ellsworth and a few months afterward his brother F.S. Burton bought him out. This state of affairs continued for a comparatively long time, for this tempestuous paper, or until Jan. 1, 1881, when T.E.W. Crissey took it over, and redubbed it the Midland Republican.

That name strikes a comparatively familiar note to Midlanders of more than 13 years duration, since it was in May of 1937 that the Republican abandoned weekly status and became the Midland Daily News.

However, in the meantime, one of county's most colorful characters - Bartram - who had sold his Independent in 1868, was not daunted. He established another paper called the City Times, maintaining it only a few weeks. Then he tried a publication graphically named "Bartram's Cheek," which flourished here for a few months and then moved to Saginaw where it died a quick unlingering death.

Bartram was from all accounts a persevering soul, however, for he came back to Midland in the spring of 1872 and with the financial aid of a few leading citizens established the Midland Times. George W. Hughes was associated with the paper as editor and shortly assumed ownership, purchasing Bartram's interest in the concern. This journalistic venture was short lived, lasting only three years.

As time marched on in the newspaper world here, another vehicle, the Midland Courier, made its bow to the public in 1878 under the editorship of George McConnell. The Courier changed hands and name and emerged The Review and was strictly Democratic in tone.

Edward Cornelius purchased the Review in 1880 and substituted another name, The Midland Democrat. The Democrats of this county never being very strong, the paper slowly starved for lack of party supporters and faded into oblivion like so many other early journalistic endeavors.

F.S. Burton, who had been associated with the former Midland Independent, returned to the scene and purchased the machinery and equipment of the Democrat and after adding a quantity of new material published The Midland Sun.

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FREELAND - TITTABAWASSEE TWP, MICHIGAN

MIDLAND DAILY NEWS - June 8, 1950. By an act of the Legislature during the Spring session of 1840 and approved March 30, the grant of land for Tittabawassee Township was given. However, it was not until April 5, 1841 at the home of Obadiah Crane that the settlers decided to organize into a township.

At this time lumber was the main industry of this area and wherever a little settlement would spring up, you would find shrewd tradesmen attracted to the needs of the settlers. One of these settlements was Loretta, the site of the first Post office on the farm of Jay Jacqueth. The Post Office was then called Jay. A second group, one mile north, came into the scene and through a bit of partisan politics by one George Truesdale, the Post Office was moved to what is now Freeland.

There were in the new settlement two people, "Mammy and Pappy" Freeland who operated the local hotel and tavern and made a regular habit of meeting the steamboat Belle Seymour. This boat made regular trips up the Tittabawassee River between Saginaw and Freeland. The Freeland Hotel was the center of all activity and soon the area became known as Freeland after the two kindly old people. This was about 1850 and the population numbered around 50 people.

Soon tourists and lumberjacks on their way north to Averill where the largest rollaway mill in the world was located would stop overnight and change horses. On the present site of Paxon Oil Company was located a stable and blacksmith shop. Across the street, William Roeser operated a grocery store which also contained the postoffice. The hotel was on the spot of the present Don Meyer Company. In 1867, the Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad was built from Saginaw westward and passed close enough to the village thus giving further rise to the community.

As the county gradually became cleared back from the river and white pine timber was exhausted, farmers began to come in increasing numbers until they finally caused the development of the town. The soil was fertile and produced everything for the sustenance of life. The lumber that was being cleared was oak timber and it was floated to Bay City via Saginaw. It was used a great deal in shipbuilding.

At present Freeland is a thriving village of about eight hundred people with the interests of the people devoted chiefly to farming. The surrounding farms are the principal sources of its prosperity as is evident on approaching the community. Two large elevators situated on the tracks of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad are capable of handling the grain of nearby farmers. Beans are a most important crop although wheat and corn are also raised in large quantities. The oldest living citizen, Gustave Roeser at 93 years old, still operates the farm his parents settled in 1850 when they came from Germany. The oldest business man in the village and the oldest druggist in the county George F. Barbarin, better known as 'Barb' still operates the drug store started by his grandfather. However, to those stout early settlers, the McGregors, Thompsons, Vasolds, Allens, Bishops, Bakers, Barbarins, Chapmans, Cranes Dorans, Footes, Frasers, Kings, Mungers, Roesers, Porters, and many more - Freeland owes its early existence.

From a four corner trading post the village has expanded until now it sends hundreds of workers to Midland and Saginaw industries. Located on the Saginaw, Midland Highway it will always remain a stopping off point for tourists. The Tri-City Airport, one mile from the river, buzzes with activity lending a cosmopolitan touch to the community. Evidence of the eye to the future can be seen from the recent successful drive for a new school and the Tittabawassee Memorial Park project. This community project sponsored by the Freeland Women's Study Club will be located on the banks of the Tittabawassee River and will be a lasting memorial to the war heroes of the township. With fine churches and schools, a modern business section, a very active Lions Club, I.O.O.F., and Women's Study Club having the betterment of the community as their number one project, it is safe to assume Freeland shall continue to grow and progress.

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SAMUEL O. ODELL, MRS. IDA COONS - COUNTY'S OLDEST

by Marjorie Lefler

MIDLAND DAILY NEWS - 8 June, 1950. The Midland Chamber of Commerce today announced Samuel O. Odell, 92, Midland, and Mrs. Ida Coons, 85, Coleman, have been selected as Honorary King and Queen of Midland County's Centennial.

The Chamber has carried on a countywide search for the oldest living man and woman who were born in Midland County and who are still living in Midland County.

Mr. Odell and Mrs. Coon will receive special honor during the Centennial and will also receive special gifts from businessmen and the Chamber.

Saturday afternoon, they will be honored in a special place in the huge parade. The Chamber committee was debating today whether to offer them a ride in a 1950 convertible or a 1923 Studebaker touring car that Trombley Motor Sales is shining up for the parade.

On Sunday afternoon, as part of the 1 p.m. Old Timers Club Meeting at the band shell, the Honorary King and Queen will come in for special recognition.

SAMUEL O. ODELL - The new little settlement of Midland was scarcely out of swaddling clothes in the year 1857 when November 1 marked the birth of a lusty your son called Samuel at the pioneer home of Loren and Hannah Odell, located on Bullock Creek.

In this year of its 100th birthday celebration, Midland is proud to honor this alert and still active native born son, Samuel O. Odell, 108 West Buttles street as oldest resident and still is dwelling within the boundary lines of the county.

Odell, now in his 93rd summer had clear-cut recollections back to the days of his childhood on the banks of Bullock Creek where Indians camped and roamed through the territory, and when settlers were few and far between. His parents, who came from New York, he says, purchased their acres through 'Eddy and Ave--' in Saginaw, and moved on it in 1848. They found just four settlers about at that time, according to record, and

the only connection with civilization was via the Tittabawassee River to Saginaw.

Odell recalls when the Belle Seymour was the latest mode of travel, and very vivid in his memory is the very first time the Pere Marquette as a 'passenger' came up the newly-established line into Midland. "She had a big old bellshaped stack on her, her fireman stoked in the wood, and she was a mighty impressive sight as all the folks watched her come in" says Odell, with a far-away look back on those days still in the 1860's.

Another vivid recollection he carried from his childhood was the witnessing of the Indian burial customs.

"There was a little hemlock ridge, a pleasant sort of place, located just about where the Dow pond off Poseyville road now is," he says. "It was Chippewa burying ground, and at that time all their graves were made there. At the close of their mourning chants and ceremony, and the covering of the body in the grave, stakes were placed at the head and foot and a canopy carefully woven between to cover the resting place."

"Many's the time I've seen them as a child and I can still see it in my mind's eye."

At the age of 'going on 15' Odell left home to seek his fortune, and 'from that day until now' he has always made his own way, he says proudly. His first real job, he recalls, was when a young man he made his way to Ludington, and there was employed at a mill.

"You know what they fed us for breakfast every single morning?" says he, "Whitefish! Boiled whitefish, every morning, Oh, of course, we'd get bread to go with it, but whitefish was plentiful there on the lake, and so every morning they'd cook up a boilerful for the crew. I can taste them yet."

From Ludington, he went on to Baldwin, and up the Pere Marquette river to the logging locations of Dempsee and Carter. "Camps were located about every six miles all along the river; one crew would take the drive on down to the next, and so on down to the lake," he explains.

"The camp I went into was run by Dempsee's nephew." "Who sen you here," he whipped out at me first thing." "Dempsee sent me," I answered. ("I'd never seen Dempsee," he adds with a sly twinkle, "but I sure needed that job.") "My uncle sen you, did he?" blustered the nephew,

"He's always sen some dom logger for me to hire. Well, get you dinner," he finally decided, "and I tell you where to go."

"After I'd eaten a square ," continues Odell, "I felt a little better in spite of the fact that I'd found every man jack of that crew were Frenchmen, even the cook! They couldn't talk English and I couldn't talk French, but Dempsee put me to work keeping a river-bend clear on down the line. One day after I'd worked there some time, Dempsee spied Bowerfield, his boss of the next crew on the river. "You wan a man?" he asked this Bowerfield. "Why, yes, I could use a good man," Bowerfield replied. "Well, take theese one, then," said Dempsee. "He dom good man, but he sure not French."

"The $40 per month I got was top wages in those days, and the 140-some dollars I drew at the end of the season was the biggest pile of money I'd ever seen up till then," says Odell, who traveled a good deal for those days, and says he had experienced every kind of work from "cutting wood and digging ditches on up" in those roving young active years.

It was in 1881 that he returned to settle in Midland Township, and married Sarah Gowan who was mother of his two now living children. His first-born was a son Oscar, who now lives in Bay City. A daughter, Maude, who later became Mrs. James Hepinstall, was next born. She died in 1922. Mrs. Kenyon Wixson, well known resident of Midland, is his second daughter.

Sarah Gowan Odell died in 1888 and two years later he married Liza Sass, who bore him a son, Roy, now also deceased. His second wife died shortly thereafter.

His wife of more than 55 years who died this past April, was Christina Ross before her marriage, and they have resided in his Buttles street home for well over half a century. They had no children. He has now 11 grandchildren, and 29 great-grandchildren, in all.

Odell is remembered by older residents of Midland as having operated a successful cigar factory here from 1903 to 1916. Later business ventures dealt a good deal in real estate, and he is said to have platted and sold much of the land where Dow Chemical now stands.

His one hobby has been collecting coins, and a rare old-time 'copper' or one cent piece given to him at the age of 10 by his grandmother, he still carries. "So I was never completely broke," he recalls with a chuckle, "although badly bent at times."

His longevity and still good health he attributes to "good hard work all of my life, not having time to complain, and keeping away from doctors."

"I dare say, in all of my life I've never spent over $25 on doctor bills for my own self," he declares, and adds, "folks nowadays have it too easy. They make too much money with too little actual effort, and have too much time to complain about what a terrible time they're having.

"Too many youngsters now get money doled out to them by the week without ever having to dig for it." he observes, concerning the modern generation. "They never have the chance to know the actual value of a dollar, and never learn how to care for what they do get.

"But," adds this philosophical, proud, and admirable gentleman, who is nearly as old as Midland herself, "centennial celebration or no, I guess we can't bring back the old days, the old ways, or the people as they were then."

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HISTORY OF WARREN TOWNSHIP

by Alma Preston High

This is an excerpt from "Coleman, A Mill Town of Pioneer Michigan, 1870-1964." Chapter XI.

Warren township, in which Coleman is located, is bounded on the west by Isabella County, on the north by Gladwin County, on the south by Geneva Township, and on the east by Edenville Township. Warren Township was originally part of Jerome Township. When Midland County was organized in 1871, Warren Township, as it is now was set off by itself. The first election in the township was held in the Jonathan Pierce "Exchange Hotel" the first Monday on February, 1872. Mr. Pierce, N.S. Ferguson, and L.H. Higgens were inspectors of election. The first Justice of the peace was Mr. Samuel Hubbell. When the settlement of Coleman was incorporated as a village in 1887, the Township of Warren began to operate independently as a township, but held all township meetings and elections in what was known as the old town hall in Coleman, until the year 1904 when Warren Township built a town hall of its own in the exact

center of the township. This building is still used and has recently been reconditioned.

Some early supervisors in Warren Township: 1873-76 Samuel Hubbell, 1877-78 Lafayette Howard, 1879-80 George Miller, 1882 Lafayette Howard, 1882 George Miller, 1883 Floyd Post, 1884 George Miller.

FARMS AND FAMILIES: Jacob Pontus owned the farm on Lewis road, now owned by Kenneth Cozat. William Smith owned the farm across the road where Glen and Grace Doren live. Peter Wasser owned and cleared the Don Jurn farm. Ben Thorington, who came from Saginaw to Midland on the "Belle Seymour," bought and lived on the present Ken Owens farm on Schaffer Road.

Matthew Preston lived on and cleared his farm on South Coleman Road. He built a log house and moved his family there in 1891. His daughter, Alma High, has used one of the hand hewn logs from his house as a mantle for a fireplace in her home which joins the old farm.

Albert Cairns built the house on the Jack Webber Farm on South Coleman Road. He worked in the Headliner Mill until he had paid for his farm.

Dorr Calkins, Chris Berk, and William Hayes bought and cleared farms west of the cemetery corner. Franklin Stemple built the house on the Tony Toth farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clark (nee Luella Hubbell) lived on the farm now occupied by Bob Beacom's dairy business. Fred Clarke cleared the farm now owned by his nephew, Charles Clarke, on Lewis Road. John Jones built and lived in the house now known as the Vought home.

Mrs. Bauder's house, south of the creamery, was built by Mr. Luke.

Elias Yager (father of the late Emma Wickham) lived on the Ellis Penny farm. Mr. Yager hewed the logs and built the house for his family. Mr. Yager also ran a lumber camp at the Halfway as Lyle was then called.

There were five Yager brothers who came to Coleman from Capac in 1873; Elias, Levi, Henry, Russell and Oscar. George Cudney and Mrs. Cormars, step-children of Oscar Yager, were small children when they arrived at Coleman.

Mrs. Clara Hubbell Luxton, sister of Mrs. Luella Clark, ran a boarding house at the coal kilns, which were along the Beaverton railroad tracks between Coleman and Lyle. These kilns were on the Spicer farm. There was a settlement of five houses.

M.E. Budge came to Coleman from Maine and built a home east of Town on "Old 10." Mr. Budge was a blacksmith.

Mr. and Mrs. William Samsel cleared their farm and built the house where their grandson, Roy, and family now lives.

The late Mrs. Lena O'Conner, mother of Lloyd O'Conner, was one of three cooks at a shingle mill on the Gladwin Road at the corner of Midland and Gladwin County Line, They fed 80 men. They baked bread every day, and often served biscuits for breakfast, serving them with black-strap molasses. Dried apple pie was the favorite dessert.

Today there are about 20 farmers in Warren Township who make their living by farming.

WE REMEMBER: Well remembered, as the woman who discovered and developed musical tendencies and talent in children, youth and adults, Minnie Green was both a vocalist and pianist. Mrs. Green was an outstanding woman of the town who gave freely of her self and her talents when entertainment was desired.

Florence Phiel came to Coleman as a young girl, to live with here sister, Mrs. J.E. Curtice. She completed the high school course, attended Mt. Pleasant Normal School, and became a successful teacher in Coleman's Elementary School.

Most of us will remember her as the gracious, refined lady we came to know over the years after her marriage to Edwin Simons. A versatile woman and an excellent pianist, always ready to serve the community. For over sixty years she has been an outstanding woman in church, lodge and community affairs.

Florence High, wife of C.V. High, Sr., was an ardent enthusiastic worker in the Episcopalian Church, civic projects, a leader in woman's rights, a strong worker for the Republican Party, an organizer of Women's Club, young people's groups and recreational programs. This outgoing woman served as mayor of Coleman for two terms, during which time many effective measures were put in operation, benefiting the city.

Coleman's most beloved and respected teacher of all time, was Miss Agnes Menery. She was the principal of the high school for twenty

years. Miss Menery was a gentle, patient teacher, with a sharp sense of humor. She did much in molding the character of many fine citizens who were privileged to attend her classes. Many remember her for the lessons taught in honesty, decency and good citizenship.

A history of Coleman would not be complete without an account of the stupendous undertaking carried on by Harry and Cora Bolenbaugh, during World War II. Mr. Bolenbaugh started writing one letter per month to every service man from Coleman and vicinity, and kept this up as long as the war lasted. Mrs. Bolenbaugh typed and addressed the letters. At first the Bolenbaughs used their own money to finance the project, which included packages of cigarettes, gum, film, stationery, etc. Mr. Bolenbaugh worked as an attendant in the Gulf Service Station, so he decided to install a slot machine and use all the proceeds for his boys in the service. When the State Police heard about the slot machine, they allowed Harry to keep it when he explained that every penny went to the armed forces.

When the Midland paper company learned what Harry was doing, it offered to furnish all stationery at cost. Mr. T.W. Daniels, editor of the Coleman Tribune, gave a cut-rate price so that a copy of the local newspaper could be included. The Bolenbaughs urged folks to write a few lines each month to our boys. Mr. T.W. Daniels printed this sheet free of charge.

In 1945, a Gulf salesman appeared at the local Gulf Station, and after much persuasion on his part, Harry and Cora accepted an invitation to go to New York, where they appeared on the program, "We, the People", at Rockefeller Center.

The idea of an Honor Roll, for the city originated from the Honor Roll which Mr. Bolenbaugh had attached to a wall in the Gulf Station.

WARREN TOWNSHIP FIRSTS

Doctor - James Laurin Budge
Supt. of Schools - Mr. Rice
Teacher - Della Pierce
Village President - Floyd Post
Automobile - Dr. C.V. High, Sr.
Meat Market - Frank Schoonmaker
Newspaper - Henry L. Linton
Bathroom - C.H. Niggeman

Harness maker - Horace Knight
Hotel - Exchange
Blacksmith - John Walton
Bakery - Frank and Philo Stemple
Creamery - Charles Keyworth

Settler - Jonathan Pierce
Druggist - Basherville
Undertaker - J.M. Doherty
City Mayor - William Tower
Justice of Peace - W.S. Hubble
Shoemaker - David Taylor
Sawmill - W.S. Hubble
Plastered House - Abraham Fraser
Jeweler - Mr. Dinwoody
Grain Reaper - Matthew Preston
Lawyer - Edwin Dawe
Cheese Factory - Graves Brothers
Veterinarian - Charles Fenwick

Church - St. Andrew's Episcopalian
Marriage - Levi McCone & Lucinda Brown
Threshing Machine - Joseph & Jake Warner
Commercial Ice Cream - B.J. Evans
12th grade graduates - Claudia Pontious & Lena West

In 1895 Claudia Pontious was the successful winner in a countrywide spelling contest.

All sidewalks were made of boards until about 1904. Mr. Ken Fromiller, a stone mason constructed the first cement sidewalk. Mr. Fromiller's name may still be seen on some of the earliest cement walks. Edward Nelson worked for Mr. Fromiller in construction and received $1.50 per day in wages.

The first section boss on the P.M. Railway out of Coleman was Gus Nelson. Mr. Nelson held this job for over 40 years. Five Nelson brothers came from Sweden to Michigan, and all worked for the P.M.R.R.

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COURAGE IN COLEMAN

Excerpt from "Coleman, a Mill Town of Pioneer Michigan 1870-1964. By Alma Jane Preston High.

The Homer Chase family came to Coleman, where the father secured work in one of the mills. This family built a small house on a piece of land south of town, owned by a relative, with the understanding, that when Mr. Chase was able to buy some land of his own, he would move the house onto it.

In due time, he bought some acreage adjoining the relative's farm. When the time came to move the house, the relative forbade Mr. Chase's moving it. Being a meek man, Mr. Chase did nothing. His wife was determined to have what belonged to her. She walked down the road to a neighbor, Matthew Preston's place, and explained her predicament. Mr. Preston, after thinking the situation over, said, "I'll get your house for you." The next morning bright and early, after the neighboring mill-men had gone to work, he drove his team of horses to the Chase residence and skidded the house over on to the Chase land. That evening when Mr. Chase arrived home from work, his wife was cooking supper in their own house on their own land.

In 1905 this courageous woman, with her nine children, left Coleman to follow her husband to Seattle, Washington. They went by train and she packed enough food for the entire trip. Mr. Chase passed away in 1960, at the age of 96."

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THE ELLSWORTH FAMILY

PIONEER RECORD - Sept. 1981. Letter of Walter W. Ellsworth. Members of the Ellsworth family were pioneers in Midland County. Hasten M. Ellsworth was in Midland in 1850, and with others selected the courthouse site, was the first Marshall, served as Sheriff 1859-60, was Township Treasurer for several years, had Ellsworth Street named after him and died in Midland September 12, 1893. John Larkin came to Midland in 1850, but (I) believe his parents did not arrive until sometime in the 1860's. A sister, Rebecca Ellsworth, wife of Henry D. Rogers, was in Saginaw County in 1850, moving to Midland in 1861. She died in Midland April 7, 1902. They are the G-G-Grandparents of Rosemary Madil Baker. A brother Samuel Ellsworth died in Midland November 21, 1869, and probably arrived in Midland about 1862. A brother Harrison Ellsworth died in Midland April

2, 1858, probably the year of his arrival. A brother, Homer Ellsworth, my G-Grandfather arrived in Midland in 1862 by way of Illinois and with him was his mother, Sarah Ellsworth, widow of Joseph Ellsworth. She died in Midland April 15, 1867. Homer lived in Midland until 1879 then went to Kansas and returned in 1899 but moved to Harrison where he died in 1912. He built the second hotel in Midland named 'Ellsworth Hotel' located in the vicinity of the old Rhinehart Building, and which was later sold to Rod Russell.

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CIHOCKI (GEHOSKI) FAMILY

PIONEER RECORD - Feb. 1982. by Esme Gehoski. Dateline September 28th, 1840. KEILCE, Province of Keilce, formerly Poland, now under Prussian rule. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Martin(?) Cihocki, a son, Michael, destined to live a better life than his parents had known.

At Age 19 he left his homeland and came to America, landing in New York. It's not known at present if he came with his parents. Here he found work as a mason/bricklayer. The city of Detroit and its Polish quarter beckoned. Moving to Detroit, he found work here, too, as a mason/bricklayer. He often told his children (there were 14 of them), that when he came to Detroit, Woodward Avenue was nothing better than a sandy track. In 1868/69, the young lady he was to marry came to the area and after a somewhat short courtship, they were married. She was Mary Lubercik, daughter of Steven and Mary Lubercik. Sometime later, in 1887, they moved up to Larkin Twp., Midland County, having bought considerable acreage. Here they built a home and other outbuildings on what was known then as the old State Road (Jefferson Ave.) When Midland was yet young, he cut logs and hauled them down to the Salt Block in town. He told that at that time there were only 3 or 4 stores in town, the Reardon Bros. and A.H. Reinhart included. Later, the farm was sold or deeded to someone else and they moved into town on Collins St. Their daughter Sulia and her husband Edmond Nogaski, had built a small home next to 110 E. Collins for them to live in. In late 1981, both homes were still in good condition and occupied by families.

Michael died in 1937 at the venerable age of 97. His wife, Mary, died in 1945 almost 95 years old. Of their fourteen children, only four

survived their father; Sulia, Josephine who married Peter Demski, Benjamin who married Martha Szczygiel, and Rosalia who married Jacob Salva. One other, Michael Jr. died in the influenza/pneumonia epidemic of 1919-20. He married Frances Latocki, daughter of Matthias Frederick and Scholastica (nee Leppek) Latocki. Other children were: Annie, Mary, Anthony (died at one year), and Lola, while five are as yet, unknown.

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LAWS OF GENEALOGY

The document containing evidence of the missing link in your research invariably will be lost due to fire, flood or war.

The keeper of the vital records you need will just have been insulted by another genealogist.

Your great, great grandfather's obituary states that he died, leaving no issue of record.

The town clerk you wrote in desperation, and finally convinced to give you the information you need, can't write legibly, and doesn't have a copying machine.

The will you need is in the safe on board the "Titanic."

The spelling of your European ancestor's name bears no relation to its current spelling or pronunciation.

That ancient photograph of four relatives, one of whom is your progenitor, carries the names of the other three.

Copies of old newspapers have holes which occur only on last names.

No one in your family tree ever did anything noteworthy, always rented property, was never sued, and was never named in wills.

You learned that Great Aunt Matilda's executor just sold her life's collection of family genealogical materials to a flea market dealer "somewhere in New York City."

Yours is the Only last name not found among the 3 billion in the world-famous Mormon Archives in Salt Lake City.

Ink fades and paper deteriorates at a rate inversely proportional to the value of the data recorded.

The 37 volume, sixteen thousand page history of your county of origin isn't indexed yet.

The critical line in your family tree is named "Smith."

Source: ***INSIDE IRELAND***

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DAFFY-NITION

Ancestor - A person, who gave so little thought to how important he would be to someone that he did not commit nearly enough significant acts to get himself noticed. Instead of performing stupendous, momentous deeds to guarantee a place in county history books, he just frittered away his time doing dumb things like pulling up trees or chopping them down, plodding along behind a mule and plow, or getting punctured by arrows. If he were alive today, you wouldn't even invite him to a party!

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